



The Association of Directors of Public Health

eDPH November, 2025

ADPH Activity

Membership news | November

We are pleased to announce the following membership welcomes and updates:

DsPH: Chris Woodcock (Interim DPH Hartlepool), Craig Blundred (DPH Bradford), Mayada Abu Affan (DPH Hammersmith and Fulham), Nicola Lang (DPH Brighton and Hove), Kerry Lonergan (Acting Joint DPH, Lewisham)

Associates: Badri Padmanabhan (Interim CPH, Herefordshire), Caroline Vass (Deputy DPH Wokingham), Cynthia Folarin (CPH Stoke-on-Trent)

ADPH meets Wes Streeting (Secretary of State for Health and Social Care)

At the beginning of November, Greg Fell (ADPH President and DPH Sheffield) met with Wes Streeting together with the President of the [Association of Directors of Children's Services](#) and the Vice Presidents of both the [Association of Directors of Adult Social Services](#) and the [Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport](#) to discuss the impact of NHS reforms on local government. Also this month, Alison Challenger (ADPH Workforce and Funding PAG Co-Lead and DPH West Sussex) went to a face-to-face stakeholder engagement meeting with both Wes Streeting and Karin Smyth (Minister of State for Health (Secondary Care)) to discuss the [10 Year Workforce Plan](#).

ADPH consultation responses | 7th November

In case you missed them, catch up now with our responses to the following Government consultations:

- **Alcohol Licensing Reform:** In our [response](#) to this [call for evidence](#), we emphasised the damaging effects of alcohol on health and the need for the National Licensing Policy Framework to focus on public health.
- **10 Year Workforce Plan:** This consultation was to inform the development of a new workforce model, building on the [10 Year Health Plan](#). In our [response](#), we emphasised the need for the plan to look beyond the NHS and include the public health workforce.

Institute of Alcohol Studies (IAS) | A healthier future report | 10th November

Alice Wiseman (ADPH Vice President and DPH Gateshead and Newcastle) has contributed to a new [report](#) from the [IAS](#), setting out the serious and growing concern of alcohol harm in the UK.

ADPH infants, children, and young people (ICYP) webinar series | 19th December

We are pleased to announce the final two webinars in our virtual series on adversity, trauma, and resilience in ICYP, being held in collaboration with [Dr Warren Larkin](#) (Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Managing Director, Warren Larkin Associates). Both webinars will be chaired by Sarah Muckle (ADPH CYP PAG Co-Lead and DPH Essex).

The third webinar, titled '**Implementing trauma-informed approaches in education – early insights from a randomised controlled trial (RCT) of 100 secondary schools in England**', will be held on **Friday 19th December (10:30-12:00)**. This session will:

- Explore the challenges faced in the education system and the case for trauma-informed education in the service for both staff and students.
- Share learning and insights from an RCT and outline some of key interventions and learnings from the trial.
- Highlight wider work in educational policy and practice.

The last webinar in the series, titled '**Work related traumatisation, burnout, and compassion fatigue – what we can do to avoid, mitigate and protect against health-harming forms of stress**', will be held on **Tuesday 13th January (15:00-16:30)**. This session will:

- Explore the nature of work-related stress and provide advice on monitoring the signs and symptoms of health harming forms of stress.
- Outline what you can do as leaders and practitioners to take care of yourselves and your colleagues.
- Discuss the benefits of proactive, regular, and reflective practice supervision and demonstrate a solution focused model that attendees can consider using in their own workplace.

The series is open to all public health colleagues, so please do share with your teams. To register, please [contact us](#).

ADPH in the news

November has seen the following coverage from ADPH:

- Ruth Tennant (ADPH Treasurer, Work and Health Lead, and DPH Solihull) [responded](#) to the Government's [Keep Britain Working report](#).
- Julia Weldon (ADPH Alumna) has written this month's ADPH [Member Blog](#), reflecting on her experiences as a Director of Public Health and the key events that led her into public health.
- The latest episode of [PH Spotlight](#) has been released, which features Jason Strelitz (ADPH Alumnus) talking about his experience of leadership during Covid-19.
- Greg Fell (ADPH President and DPH Sheffield) was quoted in a range of [articles](#), including the [BMJ](#), responding to the Government's [Men's Health Strategy](#). Greg's [full response](#) can be found on the ADPH website.
- Sarah Perman (Policy Lead for Obesity, and DPH Hertfordshire) has [commented](#) on the marketing and nutrition claims made by the food industry as part of [Action on Sugar's](#) annual [awareness campaign](#).

Meet our Members



Jessica Mookherjee | Consultant in Public Health | Kent County Council

Registering as a Consultant in Public Health in 2007 via the [UKPHR](#) portfolio route, I purposefully chose practice over academia—believing there, my lived experience, community insights, and research skills could be a catalyst for greater change. For example, I've led work on teenage pregnancy, linking reproductive health and mental wellbeing.

Preventing suicide and self-harm, nurturing hope, and fostering community resilience have been lifelong motivators and throughout my career, bringing evidence and humanity together has guided my approach. In Lewisham, I helped develop strategies to narrow inequalities evident by the high prevalence of Black and minority groups in inpatient settings and under-representation in therapy. These are challenges that endure, but rigorous population health and sustained effort are bringing progress.

Read more from Jessica in her blog, which will be published on [our website](#) on Monday 1st December.

News from around the UK

Public Health Scotland (PHS) | Shaping healthier food environments for the next decade

[PHS](#), in collaboration with [Nesta](#), has published a [research report](#) and accompanying [policy briefing](#) that explores how Scotland's planning system can be used to create healthier food environments and support efforts to reduce obesity and health inequalities.



Until now, planning policies in Scotland have rarely addressed food environments or obesity directly. Most existing policies focus on issues like noise, amenity, or preventing retail units, rather than health. The report, 'Planning for healthier communities' draws on research and stakeholder engagement, and lessons learned from England to recommend practical steps for integrating food environment policy into the local planning system.

The policy briefing, 'The role of Local Development Plans (LDPs) in shaping healthier food environments across Scotland' focuses specifically on the role of LDPs and provides a more detailed analysis of Scotland's planning system, also offering wider considerations for action beyond LDPs.