



# The Association of Directors of Public Health

## eDPH April, 2026

### ADPH Activity

#### Membership news | April

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

**DsPH:** Hugo van Woerden (Interim DPH Swansea Bay UHB), Ian Diley (DPH Redbridge), Paul Scott (DPH Bath and North East Somerset)

**Associates:** Clare Baker (CPH Halton), Durka Dougal (CPH Medicine Kent County Council), Elizabeth Shassere (CPH City of Doncaster), Ellen Bloomer (CPH Ealing), Emily Walmsley (CPH Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole), Katherine Thompson (CPH Essex), Kerry Lonergan (Assistant DPH Greenwich), Lucy O'Loughlin (Associate DPH Isle of Wight), Rosie Fforde (CPH City of Doncaster)

**Alumni:** Mike Robinson, Peter Bradley, Rebecca Reynolds

#### New ADPH Council Associate representative

We are delighted to welcome Ian Brown (Deputy DPH Bedford) to the [ADPH Council](#), who joins Joanne Bernhaut (Consultant in Public Health East Sussex) as a representative for our Associate members. Our Council members work to ensure good two-way communications between their network and ADPH, as well as leading our Policy Advisory Groups, which inform ADPH policy and shape consultation responses.

#### Evidence submission | Transport Select Committee | 15<sup>th</sup> April

Earlier this month, Ansaf Azhar (ADPH Board Member and DPH Oxfordshire) [gave evidence](#) to the [Transport Select Committee](#) on the health, wellbeing, and economic benefits of improving access to active transport.

#### New webpages | 17<sup>th</sup> April

We have published three new [webpages](#) on our website, which bring together the key outcomes and learning from our recently completed external projects, funded by [The Health Foundation](#). These three priority projects built on our members' expertise and subject knowledge by collaborating with a wide range of partners to deliver work on:

- [the commercial determinants of health](#)
- [infants, children and young people](#)
- [healthy places](#)

The new webpages highlight key achievements from each project, including how they have helped to influence policy and practice, shape national conversations, and strengthen leadership across public health and partner sectors. They also include practical resources and examples of good practice to support public health colleagues in their local roles.

### ADPH in the news

This month:

- Greg Fell OBE (ADPH President and DPH Sheffield) appeared in the final episode of the [BBC Radio 4](#) series [Money, Influence, and the NHS](#). Elsewhere, Greg was quoted in an article by the [International Business Times](#) on the need to strengthen prevention measures to reduce avoidable illness across the UK.
- We published last month's [Presidential blog](#), where Greg reflects on the Government's plans for neighbourhood health and highlights why public health needs to play a key role in these changes.
- Dr Sakthi Karunanithi (DPH Lancashire) has written this month's [member blog](#), where he explores his passion for transforming evidence into positive change to improve the health of communities.
- Prof. Matthew Ashton (ADPH Board Member and DPH Liverpool) has written in [The MJ](#) about the importance of investing in communities and places to tackle the rising levels of illness impacting lives across the country.

### Quarterly update

The attached [report](#) provides a summary of our activity from January to March 2026. If you would like to hear more about our work, please [contact us](#).

## Meet our Members



**Dr Allison Duggal | Director of Public Health and Wellbeing | Coventry City Council**

Like most DsPH, this was not my original career aim. As a junior laboratory scientist lucky enough to be supported through a degree and PhD, I intended to stay in the lab. But life had other plans and I moved to London and became a health and safety inspector. A sideways move into infectious disease policy led ultimately to public health training. Like colleagues elsewhere, I brought this experience of research, policy development, and scientific rigour along with me into the public health workforce.

The place-based nature of the role is particularly important to me. Leading public health in Coventry means understanding the city's history, diversity, and strengths, as well as challenges. The opportunity to work collaboratively with elected members, NHS partners, voluntary sector, and – most importantly – local communities, is what makes the role both demanding and deeply rewarding.

Read more from Allison in her blog which will be published on our [website](#) on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

## News from around the UK

### Wales | Carbon and Co-benefits Decision Support Tool | 17<sup>th</sup> April

The Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformations (CAST) has published a briefing outlining how their Integrated



Assessment Tool, '[Carbon and Co-benefits Decision Support](#)', was co-developed and trialled with [Flintshire County Council](#).

The tool aims to support local authorities in cutting carbon emissions while supporting healthier communities and local environments.

The research showed that integrated assessment tools can support the development of climate policy and bring co-benefits, but only where there is staff capacity and adequate resourcing. While based on work in Wales, the findings are applicable to other regions.