



The Association of Directors of Public Health

eDPH May, 2026

ADPH Activity

Membership news | May

We are pleased to announce the following membership welcome and update:

DsPH: Andrea Sanabari (DPH Jersey)

ADPH Annual General Meeting (AGM) | 14th May

We held our AGM on Thursday 14th May, bringing together 75 members from across the UK. During the meeting, we shared our [Annual Review](#), highlighting our impact of the past year. As part of our ongoing efforts to improve how we communicate our work, we would appreciate receiving your feedback via this [brief survey](#).

Public Health Annual Report Celebrations

Each year, we invite public health teams to submit their annual reports as part of our [Annual Report Celebration](#) to showcase innovation and impactful work taking place across the sector. This year 72 reports were submitted, and this year's top six examples (in alphabetical order) are:

- [Aneurin Bevan](#)
- [Brighton and Hove](#)
- [Hertfordshire](#)
- [Leeds](#)
- [Portsmouth](#)
- [Westminster](#) and [RBKC](#)

New ADPH Council representatives

We are delighted to welcome Sally Cartwright (DPH Cambridgeshire) and David Munday (DPH Buckinghamshire) to the [ADPH Council](#). Sally will be representing the East of England alongside Vicky Head (DPH Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, and Milton Keynes), and David will be representing the South East of England alongside Alison Challenger (DPH West Sussex). Our [Council members](#) work to ensure good two-way communications between their network and ADPH, as well helping to lead our Policy Advisory Groups, which inform ADPH policy.

RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Last week, Darrell Gale (ADPH Healthy Places Policy Co-lead and DPH East Sussex), participated in a panel discussion at the [RHS Chelsea Flower Show](#) alongside colleagues across the public health and charity sector to explore the role of gardening in keeping communities active.

All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Dietary Health

Last week, Greg Fell OBE (ADPH President and DPH Sheffield) and Darrell attended the launch event of the [APPG on Dietary Health](#), hosted by the [Obesity Health Alliance](#). During the event, Greg and

Darrell discussed the role of food systems in improving health and wellbeing across communities with MPs and members of the House of Lords.

ADPH in the news

This month:

- Greg Fell was quoted in the Government's [press release](#) announcing the Royal Assent of the [Tobacco and Vapes Bill](#). Alice Wiseman MBE (ADPH Vice President and DPH Gateshead and Newcastle) also reflected on the landmark [legislation](#) in her latest [sickness to prevention column](#) for [Healthcare Leader](#). Watch some of our [members' reflections](#).
- We have published Greg's [Presidential blog](#), where Greg reflects on our Annual Review.
- We were referenced in an [article](#) by the [Local Government Chronicle](#) looking at the delivery of the teenage pregnancy strategy.
- Sarah Perman (ADPH Obesity Policy Lead and DPH Hertfordshire) was featured in [Action on Salt's](#) awareness week [campaign](#), highlighting the need for stronger regulation of the food industry.
- Dr Allison Duggal (DPH Coventry) has written our [member blog](#), where she talks about the importance of place-based working and collaboration with local communities to support population health.
- A blog by Ruth Tennant (ADPH Board Member and DPH Solihull) on the importance of health protection systems was featured on the [LGA](#) website.

Meet our Members



Peter Roderick | Director of Public Health | York

In this special edition of our member blog, Peter reflects on his experience chairing our commercial determinants of health (CDOH) Policy Advisory Group.

"Many Directors of Public Health (DsPH) have become increasingly aware of how the commercial determinants of health (CDOH) lie behind so many of the core programmes we deliver to improve our community's health. Across many of our priorities, whether it be reducing gambling harm, creating a smokefree generation, or helping people access

healthier food environments, we recognise that our efforts face a massive headwind: the actions of companies who profit from the consumption of an ever increasingly wide range of harmful products.

"What unites these industries are the tactics they use, such as aggressive marketing, industry lobbying, donation to political campaigns, research funding, and spreading mis - and dis - information on harm, all lucrative ways to entice our communities and impact their health.

"So, when we set out the task to tackle this mammoth problem, led by mammoth industries, we were ambitious to say the least, but standing back at the end of this [project](#), I'm proud to say we have made real strides in achieving this."

You can read more about the impact our CDOH project had in Peter's blog, which will be published on

our [website](#) on Monday 1st June.

News from around the UK

England | Whole-school approach to wellbeing | 21st May

The [Centre for Mental Health](#) has published a new [report](#) reviewing the outcomes of the [myHappymind](#) programme and setting out supporting evidence for a whole-school approach to wellbeing.

[myHappymind](#) is a positive mental health wellbeing programme, delivered by teachers and designed for children in early years through to year six. It aims to build pupils' emotional literacy, self-regulation, and resilience through lessons, interactive tasks, and practical strategies.

The [report](#) found that the programme is highly valued by commissioners, teachers, pupils, and parents, and has added benefits for pupils with special educational needs.

