



The Association of Directors of Public Health

eDPH September, 2026

ADPH Activity

Membership News | September

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

DsPH: Dr Paul Edmondson-Jones MBE (Interim DPH Dudley).

Associates: Dr Dalia Youssef (CPH Slough), Hadjer Nacer (CPH Bracknell Forest), Huw Brunt (CPH Cardiff and Vale), Lucy Furby (CPH Camden), Peter Taylor (Assistant DPH Norfolk), Sarah Rayfield (Deputy DPH Oxfordshire).

Open letter to MPs to support the Babies Bill | 3rd September

Alongside the [Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health](#) and other health organisations, we have signed an [open letter](#) to MPs calling for support of the [Infants, Parents and Carers \(Babies\) Bill](#), which aims to strengthen early support for families.

Autumn Budget 2026 submission | 9th September

We have submitted our [recommendations](#) to the Treasury ahead of this year's Autumn Budget, which sets out why we believe the Government should prioritise stronger investment in prevention alongside restoring the public health grant to its previous 2015/16 real-terms per person value.

Response to the House of Lords report on gambling | 17th September

We have published our [response](#) welcoming the House of Lords Liaison Committee's report, which recommends a comprehensive ban on gambling advertising.

Response to the Government's updated School Food Standards | 17th September

We have published our [response](#) welcoming the Government's decision to update the [School Food Standards](#) to reflect healthier food options across school menus.

Update to Commercial Determinants of Health (CDOH) position statement | 18th September

We have added a new appendix on the polluter pays principle to our [CDOH position statement](#), setting out the conditions needed for the polluter pays principal to work as an effective public health intervention.

Response to the Government's consultation on revitalising high streets | 22nd September

We have submitted our [response](#) to the Government's [consultation](#) on revitalising high streets, highlighting that health should be a core consideration throughout the planning process.

ADPH in the news

This month:

- [The Guardian](#) has published an obituary, written by former ADPH President Tony Jewell, commemorating the exceptional public health impact of our former CEO, Nicola Close MBE, who died in July this year.
- Greg Fell OBE (ADPH President and DPH Sheffield) was quoted in an [article](#) by [BBC Sport](#), where he discussed the advertising of foods high in fat, sugar, and salt during the 2026 Fifa World Cup. This discussion was subsequently covered by [BBC Radio 5 Live](#) (Monday 22nd September 08:31 – 08:40).
- We were referenced in an article by [Sciencemag](#) and [Bioengineer](#) looking at the development of the [Good Governance Toolkit](#), which sets out ways to improve the governance of commercial interactions and relationships.
- Stuart Keeble (DPH Suffolk) features in the [latest episode](#) of [PH Spotlight](#), where he reflects on the values that have shaped his leadership and his advice for aspiring public health leaders.
- We have published September's [member blog](#), written by Dr Mohammed Jawad (Deputy DPH Barnet), who explores finding his place in public health after an early career in medicine.

Meet our Members



Claire McIver | Director of Public Health | Cheshire East

I'm a huge advocate of public health as a career because there's so much variety and I've always felt that the work is so rewarding. There's a real sense of pride from knowing you might have contributed to improving people's wellbeing or life chances. I'll always take opportunities to raise awareness or support others into this career path, and as someone who gained specialty registration via Portfolio, I'm proactive in supporting others through this route as well as pushing for its parity.

Public health is rarely straightforward, but its complexity is part of what makes it such meaningful and interesting work — the opportunity to improve lives, reduce inequalities, and work alongside committed colleagues is what continues to motivate me.

Read Claire's full blog which will be available on our [website](#) on Thursday 1st October.

News from around the UK

PHS | Physical activity and women's health | 22nd September

[Public Health Scotland](#) (PHS) has published a new [report](#) highlighting the role of physical activity in supporting women's health and wellbeing at each stage of their lives.

The report explores the benefits of physical activity from adolescence through to older age, including during pregnancy and menopause. It examines the barriers to participating in



physical activity as well as the opportunities to support women and girls to be more active. It also presents evidence to inform policies and practice, with the aim of improving health outcomes among women in Scotland.