



The Association of Directors of Public Health

eDPH October, 2026

ADPH Activity

Membership News | October

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

Associates: Anna Brook (CPH Wakefield), Dr David Davies (Acting CPH Slough), Dr Jo Williams (CPH Bristol), Lee Watson (Deputy DPH Norfolk), Leonie Roberts (Associate Director/CPH Bolton), Wendi Shepherd (Deputy DPH Shropshire).

Alumni: Dr Sohail Bhatti

Tobacco and vapes packaging, appearance, and display consultation response | 1st October

Read our [response](#) to the Government's [consultation](#) on regulating tobacco and vapes packaging, which includes calling for an introduction of plain packaging, text and picture health warnings, and a restriction of the colour and finish of heated tobacco devices.

Practice Improvement in Public Health Annual Report 2025/26 | 2nd October

We have published our [Practice Improvement Annual Report](#), which provides an overview of the work taken across [constituency networks](#), [Commissioners' Groups](#), and [national programmes](#) over the past year to share learning, develop practical resources, and respond to local public health priorities.

Civil Contingencies Act 2004 consultation response | 7th October

Read our [response](#) to the Government's [consultation](#) on the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 which is now available on our [website](#). Our response includes recommendations on strengthening local system resilience, and exploring the role Strategic Authorities and Mayors can play in local resilience in England.

Update to Devolution Position Statement | 9th October

We have updated our [devolution](#) position statement, outlining the key opportunities and challenges that devolution presents, and our recommendations for effective implementation.

Updated What Good Looks Like publications | 9th October

We have refreshed our [What Good Looks Like](#) publications on [Infants, Children and Young People](#), and [Healthy Weight](#). Our suite of What Good Looks Like publications serve as practical resources to support practice improvement and inform local decision-making.

Annual Conference | Sponsorship announcement

We are pleased to announce that the following organisations are sponsoring this year's ADPH Awards:

- Innovate Practice Award, sponsored by [Penna](#).
- Practice Improvement Award, sponsored by [HCRG Care Group](#).
- Team Award, sponsored by [Public Health Jobs](#).

- Research Award, sponsored by [National Institute for Health and Care Research](#).

See who has made the [shortlist](#) for this year's awards.

We would also like to thank the following organisations for sponsoring this year's Annual Conference:

- [Everyone Health](#) as a Gold+ sponsor.
- [HCRG Care Group](#) as a Platinum sponsor.
- [Impact on Urban Health](#) as a Silver sponsor
- [National Institute for Health and Care Research](#) as a Gold+ sponsor.
- [The Health Foundation](#) as a Gold+ sponsor.
- [We Are Undefeatable](#) as a Gold sponsor.

If you are interested in our [sponsorship opportunities](#), including exhibiting at our Annual Conference this year, please [contact us](#).

ADPH in the news

This Month:

- Our [response](#) to the [Secretary of State's announcements](#) at the Labour Party conference was reported in [Healthcare Management](#), [Localgov](#), and [Nursing Times](#).
- [The MJ](#) published an [article](#) written by Greg Fell OBE (ADPH President and DPH Sheffield) in collaboration with Yvonne Doyle (Chair of the Health Services Committee at [The Faculty of Public Health](#)) on the need for accredited public health expertise to be built back into the NHS.
- Greg was quoted in [The Grocer](#) (paywalled) and [Convenience Store](#) (paywalled) where he welcomed a new [report](#) by [Obesity Health Alliance](#) that calls for food advertising and promotion restrictions to be brought in line with the latest nutritional guidance.
- Peter Roderick (ADPH spokesperson for Addiction, Commercial Determinants of Health, and DPH York) was [quoted](#) in a [BMJ](#) analysis on industry lobbying against proposed new rules under the Tobacco and Vapes Act.
- Alice Wiseman MBE (ADPH Vice President and DPH Gateshead and Newcastle) published her latest [Sickness to Prevention](#) column in [Healthcare Leader](#), exploring the opportunities, and challenges that devolution and local government reform brings.
- We released a [video](#) for Public Health Workforce Week, celebrating the impact of Directors of Public Health.
- We have published October's [member blog](#), written by Claire McIver (DPH Cheshire East), who reflects on stepping into her first DPH role.

Quarterly update

The attached report gives a summary of our activity from July to September 2026 and includes details of some of our upcoming projects. If you would like to hear more about our work, please [contact us](#).

Meet our Members



Charlotte Pavitt | Director of Public Health | Bracknell Forest

I have been fortunate to shape a new role at Bracknell Forest, growing and empowering the team around me while creating space to look up and out across the council and wider system. Being a Director of Public Health (DPH) is not simply being a more senior consultant, it is a different kind of leadership. I combine statutory responsibilities with corporate leadership, partnership working, and a constant effort to make population

health part of everyday council and system business. Although employed by the local authority, I see myself as DPH for the community I serve first and foremost, advocating for everyone who lives, works, and spends time in Bracknell Forest.

What I enjoy most is the mix of challenge, human connection, and possibility. I can draw on my health protection background to lead the portfolio across the Thames Valley, while leaning on and learning from peers with different strengths.

Read more from Charlotte in her blog which will be published on our [website](#) on Monday, 2nd November.

News from around the UK

PHW | Prevention spend and investment | 15th October

[Public Health Wales](#) (PHW) has published a [report](#) summarising international evidence and practical approaches on measuring, protecting, and increasing expenditure on prevention. By taking a systems approach, the report demonstrates that structural and political forces drive underinvestment in prevention and are also the solutions to strengthening it, drawing on practical implementation examples from South Korea, Estonia, Germany, and Finland.

