

## **Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Training Location**

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust have embarked on an ambitious five-year strategy which puts prevention, health inequalities, environmental sustainability and social value in its top priorities. Our vision is to improve the lives of people who live, work and volunteer on the Fylde Coast and beyond.

### The Trust

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is situated on the west coast of Lancashire, with services covering the local authority areas of Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre. The Trust is part of the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System (ICS) supporting a population of around 1.6 million people. We have three main hospitals providing acute services to around 330,000 local residents. The organisation also provides specialist tertiary care for cardiac and haematology services, delivers community health services to over 445,000 residents including those in North Lancashire and hosts the National Artificial Eye Service across England. Plus, we provide urgent and emergency care services to an estimated 18 million people who visit the seaside resort each year.

The Fylde Coast is an area of contrast, facing a number of interesting and diverse public health challenges and can therefore offer a varied training experience. There are high levels of deprivation in Blackpool, which experiences the greatest deprivation of all of England's local authorities and there are similar pockets of deprivation in Wyre, particularly in Fleetwood. However, there are affluent areas in Wyre and generally, Fylde is less deprived than other parts of the country.

The Board of the Trust recognised the challenges faced across the Fylde Coast and the potential impact of public health in the Trust and took the decision to appoint a Consultant in Public Health in 2020. Many trusts across the country are recruiting consultants in public health but we are the only acute trust in Lancashire to currently employ one in a permanent position, so a placement here offers a unique opportunity.

### The Team

The public health team sits within the Medical Directorate, which includes Executive Medical Director, two Deputy Medical Directors, several associate Medical Directors, one Consultant in Public Health, a Business Manager and admin support. The Consultant in Public Health is Dr Heather Catt who completed training in 2020 and provides educational supervision. Although a team of one, additional resource is brought in where possible and currently includes, a public health registrar, a HEE Population Health Fellow, a Personalised Care Programme Manager (who sits with Strategic Planning and Delivery) and a Corporate Performance Analyst (who sits within Business Intelligence) who is being trained in public health intelligence.

The portfolio covered by public health includes development and delivery of a Health Inequalities Plan, Green Plan and Anchor Institutions Framework. This portfolio reports to the Executive Director of Strategy and works closely with the Executive Director of Integrated Care and the Trust Chair.

The public health consultant has a special interest in coproducing research and using quality improvement methods for system challenges and is currently involved in several projects:

- Leading a Health Foundation research project to coproduce an Anchor Framework for Coastal Communities
- CO-I in an Arts and Humanities Research Council funded project to build a community research consortium and an integrated place-based partnership model and co-produce a research agenda to reduce health inequalities in coastal areas.
- Leading a quality improvement project as part of the Trusts Clinical Quality Academy to improve the first 1,001 days of life in Blackpool.
- Member of a quality improvement team as part of Cambridge University led Engineering Better Care programme to deliver improvements in care and support for people aged under 65 living with frailty and respiratory conditions.

Public health work closely with research and development, quality improvement, strategy and transformation, research and development and programme management teams in the Trust, as well as with the divisions, which cover acute and community care. In addition, public health are involved in strategic and operational partnerships across the Fylde Coast including the Blackpool Place Based Partnership, Fylde Coast Research Collaborative and relationships with other public and VCFSE organisations. There are opportunities and registrars are encouraged to work across all these areas.

The Trust can offer experience across a range of public health areas to support the full curriculum, not limited to Key Area 7: Health and Care Public Health.

#### The Practicalities

BTH offer flexible and hybrid working. Registrars are provided with a laptop, smart phone and secure remote access so working from home is possible and encouraged. An office is available for use at Blackpool Victoria Hospital and parking is available at a nearby hotel with a paid permit.

#### Further Information

Registrars considering a placement in Blackpool are very welcome to visit the department to find out more about how a placement here could be tailored to meet their training needs. To arrange a visit, or for an informal chat please contact Heather Catt on 07941 261670 or [heather.catt@nhs.net](mailto:heather.catt@nhs.net).