

Public Health in Cheshire East Council

Come and train with our award-winning* public health team!

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"I have found the public health team at Cheshire East to be very friendly and welcoming during my time here"

"They have a good understanding of the curriculum, ensure that work meets my training needs"

Training prospectus 2023/4

*[UKPHR Employer of the Year 2023](#)

*[ADPH Team Award 2023](#)

About Cheshire East Council

Welcome from Matt Tyrer, Director of Public Health

We hope you'll join us in Cheshire East, where we can offer an interesting mix of work within a fabulous team. We'll provide the right mix of support and challenge to give you the best training experience possible.

Our Council provides services for nearly 400,000 residents and is the third largest local authority in the North West. We offer a varied public health experience with many unique challenges:

- An ageing population with pockets of deprivation across our rural areas and the need to support connectivity with people and services
- Urban deprivation in our main towns, especially Crewe, with stark health inequalities seen in our most marginalised communities

Our consultant team has recently expanded. Andy and Susie joined in 2021 and were joined by Matt Atkinson in late 2022. This allows us to tackle a broader portfolio of work and support more trainees.

We operate a hybrid model of working and have office bases in Crewe and Macclesfield. Trainees can also work from home and are issued with a laptop.

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What experience can you gain from Cheshire East?

ST1-2

- Good grounding in public health knowledge through our tutorial programme.
- Opportunities to gain health intelligence expertise through our ambitious Joint Strategic Needs Assessment programme, local authority experience in health protection, and numerous opportunities for gaining experience in project management, risk management, evaluation, evidence appraisal and informing senior decision makers.

ST3-5

Opportunities for systems leadership through:

- Leading work across our integrated care partnership
- Leading pharmaceutical or joint strategic needs assessment reviews.
- Bespoke health and care public health experience shaped by our dedicated Health and Care Consultant in Public Health and linking in with primary and secondary care.

Throughout

- Opportunities for gaining experience in teaching and supervision of junior doctor colleagues from other specialties.
- A great degree of flexibility in shaping your training experience

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The public health team

2020 to 2024

- We delivered an effective response to COVID-19 that received national recognition. The team is now redoubling its efforts to reduce inequalities and tackle the wider determinants of health and wellbeing across Cheshire East.

Our team is providing leadership in many key areas representing opportunities to improve population health, including:

- The emerging Place Partnership and integrated care system
- A major programme of investment and regeneration in Crewe
- The wider activity that the Council and its partners undertake
- Giving young people the best start in life

Who we are

Dr Matt Tyrer – Director of Public Health

- Matt joined the public health team in Cheshire East in 2017 and was the lead for Health Protection and the wider determinants of health. He became interim Director of Public Health in August 2019 and was appointed formally in October 2020. Before going into public health training Matt worked as a junior doctor. Matt chairs the Cheshire and Merseyside Public Health Collaborative (Champs) and is the lead director for CPD and workforce development.
- Matt is also an honorary lecturer in public health at Keele University and an examiner for the medical school. Matt has a passion for teaching and training and is keen to oversee the development of the public health team as a centre of excellence for training and innovation.

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Dr Andrew Turner – Public Health Consultant

- Andy is a biologist by background, with a PhD and several years' experience in academic research and NHS microbiology prior to beginning public health specialist training in 2016. He joined the Council in what was his first Consultant in Public Health role in August 2021.
- Andy leads on health protection (including communicable disease control and environmental public health) and on influencing the wider determinants of health. Andy has a particular interest in creating healthy places and tackling the root causes of poor health and inequality, applying a public health approach to everything from spatial planning to economic development.

Dr Susan Roberts – Public Health Consultant

- Susie joined the team in July 2021. She is a Consultant in Public Health and Consultant lead for Health Intelligence and Children and Young People. Her previous experience as a junior doctor in hospital and as a GP has led to her passion for promoting wellbeing and preventing ill health at the earliest opportunity, from birth and throughout life. She is also passionate about joining up services to support people in the right way when they need it.

Guy Kilminster – Corporate Manager for Health Improvement

- Guy is responsible for helping to ensure that the residents of Cheshire East have long and healthy lives. Guy works with partners (internal and external) to address issues that might be contributing to health inequalities and premature mortality.
- He is closely involved in the work of the Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership and the integration of health and care in Cheshire East. He also works on sub-regional priorities, for example reducing alcohol related harms and supports the DPH to ensure effective functioning of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Dr Matthew Atkinson – Public Health Consultant

- Matt Atkinson worked in critical care, anaesthetics and acute medicine before joining the Public Health StR training scheme in 2015. He joined Cheshire East for his final placement before becoming a consultant in late 2022.
- Matt leads on health and care public health and has an interest in health informatics and digital leadership. His main focus is on maximising opportunities for prevention and the reduction of inequalities in the organisation and delivery of health and care services.

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The trainee team at Cheshire East Council

- We currently support (or have recently supported) a number of trainees within our team:
 - Foundation doctors
 - GP specialty registrars
 - Public health specialty registrars
 - Public health practitioners
 - Local government trainees
- Andy, Susie and Matt A are all educational supervisors, as is Matt Tyrer, our DPH. We're all keen to teach and provide exam support as necessary
- Projects will be allocated based on training needs and development areas, with more senior trainees taking on a portfolio of work

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Trainee perspectives

Dr Matthew Atkinson – ST5 Public Health Registrar (prior to CCT)

- I had a fabulous year in Cheshire East and received just the right balance of challenge, responsibility and support. My work programme was tailored around getting my final learning outcomes signed off and preparing me for consultant practice.
- I led the development of a strategy for reducing inequalities in Crewe as well as working on healthy ageing in rural areas and evaluating an NHS health improvement programme – a really interesting mix of work.
- I really enjoyed working with the team and would definitely recommend training in Cheshire East. I was thrilled to be offered a consultant post here.

Dr Gisèle Spencer – ST2 Public Health Registrar

- I have found the public health team at Cheshire East to be very friendly and welcoming during my time here. All the consultants are aware of the learning outcomes that registrars must complete and are proactive in approaching me when there is a piece of work that would contribute towards one or more competencies. They have been very supportive in accommodating my style of working as well as letting me choose pieces of work in particular areas of interest to me. I am therefore not surprised that Cheshire East Council has won the UKPHR award for employer of the year 2023.
- Much of the work I have undertaken at the local authority has centred around Crewe and the health inequalities experienced by many of its residents. I have found the work interesting and varied, and I have benefitted greatly from the wealth of knowledge and skill within the public health team but also from colleagues in other teams in the council and beyond.

Dr Cathy Gregory – ST1 Public Health Registrar

- I would highly recommend a placement at Cheshire East. My supervisor and the other consultants have been extremely supportive and approachable. They have a good understanding of the curriculum, ensure that work meets my training needs and I have been able to take on work that aligns with my interests.
- The atmosphere of the team is friendly and inclusive and I feel my contribution is valued. There is a flexible hybrid working arrangement and the IT provision is good.
- I have been able to gain experience in healthcare public health within the Local Authority, which is an area of interest to me.

For more information or to arrange a discussion with Matt Tyrer or any one of the consultants, please contact Ann.Hart@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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