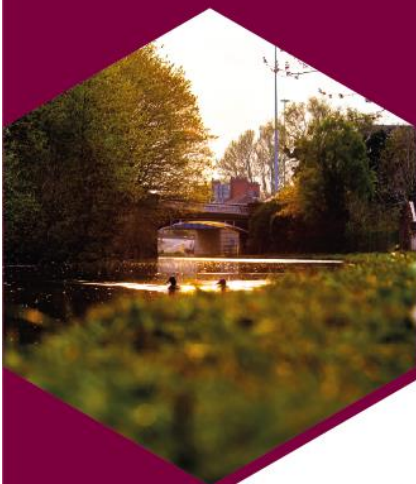


Public Health Training Prospectus 2023

Enjoy training in a small and friendly team where you can play an important role and help to take a creative and collaborative approach in meeting health challenges, improving outcomes and supporting our local community.



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Why choose Halton?

Halton Borough Council is a unitary authority located between Cheshire and Merseyside, covering the two major towns of Runcorn and Widnes which sit either side of the River Mersey. The borough has a diverse economy with a focus on logistics, science and manufacturing. There is a rich industrial heritage which has shaped the towns and countryside, with local canals and rivers playing a major role. Our waterways are important to the area and Runcorn continues to be a thriving port.

Compared to many other local authorities, our population of around 128,000 people is relatively small. This gives the Council and the Public Health Team opportunities to concentrate public health resources and to target diverse groups and communities.

Our borough also has some challenges including addressing national and regional trends that show worsening of some key health issues such as mental health, cardiovascular disease and accessing screening and preventative health opportunities.

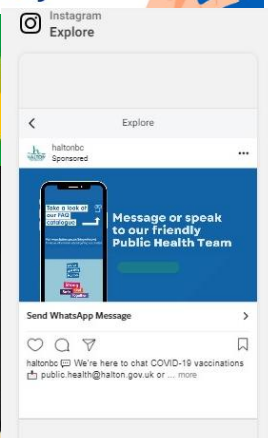
The effects of post COVID-19 pandemic, rising cost of living and other wider social determinants all play a part in real difficulties for many in our community.

We have a system-wide approach to health, wellbeing and care under the 'One Halton' banner. Bringing together strategic leaders from all partner agencies within Halton and will provide significant opportunities to experience and demonstrate systems leadership.

Our strong connections to our neighbouring authorities in the Liverpool City Region and Cheshire enable funding and a co-ordinated approach in meeting many of these challenges.



The Public Health Team has a good balance of very experienced and knowledgeable staff together with people at various stages of their careers. This brings us a wealth of skills and ideas and we regularly collaborate on many projects both within the team and with colleagues across the Council and local partners. Our team is proud to punch above our weight and to take a creative and collaborative approach to ensuring everyone in Halton has the best possible health.


We are looking for people to join our team who want to make a difference everyday, using their unique set of personal and professional skills to support our community and each other.



Winter wellbeing campaign – November 2022

Halton Public Health Team – who are we?

<p>Dr Ifeoma Onyia Director of Public Health</p>  A portrait of Dr Ifeoma Onyia, a woman with long grey dreadlocks, wearing glasses, a patterned red and white shirt, and a green vest. She is smiling and has a blue lanyard around her neck.	<p>Ifeoma joined Halton in 2013 and became Director of Public Health in 2021. Reporting directly to Stephen Young, Chief Executive, Ifeoma oversees health improvement, health protection, healthcare public health, environmental health and trading standards.</p> <p>The Director of Public Health also supports the chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and leads the development of the health and wellbeing and ICS strategies.</p> <p>“I trained in the North West and interestingly started my very first public health placement in Halton. It’s a very lively place to work with good intelligence support from the team and very close working links with local NHS organisations, making it easy to start conversations, exchange ideas and influence planning. There are opportunities to work directly with primary care, support NHS work, conduct needs assessments and other related work. Thank you for your interest in Halton and get in touch if you would like to know more.”</p> <p>To get to know Ifeoma a bit better please link here</p>
<p>Julia Rosser Consultant in Public Health Lead trainer</p>  A portrait of Julia Rosser, a woman with curly brown hair, wearing a red top. She is smiling and has a black necklace.	<p>Julia is the training lead in Halton and leads on maternal and child health. She is also the Training Programme Director for Cheshire and Merseyside.</p> <p>‘In Halton we take training very seriously and value the contribution that registrars bring to the team. We aim to fully integrate registrars into the team and provide a full induction and ongoing support. I, like the other consultants, trained in Halton. I completed my final two years here and had an acting consultant post, with the lead for maternal and child health in my final months on the scheme. I was very grateful for the high level of responsibility and opportunities offered to me here during my training.</p> <p>I have always found Halton to be a great place to work. The Public Health team are supportive and friendly, and the area is small enough that you get to know people easily. The health profile of Halton means there are plenty of challenges and opportunities to work across the spectrum of public health and develop your areas of interest. The local organisations strive to work collaboratively and in an integrated way, indeed the quality of the partnership working in Halton has been commended in inspections.’</p>

<p>Sarah Johnson-Griffiths Deputy Director of Public Health Consultant in Public Health Educational supervisor</p> 	<p>Sarah is the lead consultant on Health Protection, Environmental Health and Public Protection, including sexual health, cancer and mental health.</p> <p>'I completed public health training in the North West in 2010. I was the first non-medical trainee to complete the Specialist Health protection training, and this is one area my interest still lies (amongst many other things). I moved to Halton in February 2013. Halton is a vibrant and dynamic location. We benefit hugely from great integrated arrangements with the local NHS, and we have gained high level support for public health across all directorates within the council, which facilitates some exceptional opportunities to embed public health approaches across all areas.</p> <p>I manage a wide portfolio of work from environmental health and trading standards to suicide and sex and there are great opportunities within this portfolio to undertake some truly exciting and innovative public health work. The Halton Public health team work across all council departments and have had valuable input in to some great innovations to tackle the wider determinants of health; we have worked with the regeneration teams to help win Healthy New Town Status, generate £25m funding for the complete redevelopment of Runcorn old town including vibrant social scene, regional transport links, and an innovative health and learning hub, through improving urban design, system redesigns and exceptional multiagency working and anchor institution engagement.</p> <p>Halton is well known for its forward thinking and innovative approaches to tackling our public health issues. Halton is a truly interesting and dynamic place to work and train'.</p>
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How we support your training.

We can host up to two registrars as well as foundation doctors on their four-month public health placement. We are all based in the same office, but are operating a hybrid approach, with a mix of home working and being in the office at least two days a week.

Registrars are fully integrated into the Halton public health team and are invited to participate in team meetings, senior management meetings, journal clubs and organisational workshops, with opportunities tailored to their training requirements and stage of training. Registrars are also encouraged to participate in internal and external sessions for preparation for their faculty exams. Senior registrars gain leadership experience, working closely with the DPH in Halton and regionally, and through developing a portfolio of work. They are also encouraged to support more junior registrars, and provide supervision, training and management of foundation doctors.

All registrars will be assigned a trainer based on their interests and training requirements. There are regular structured meetings with the trainer. The registrar will work closely with and have access to all the consultants and the director of public health on a day-to-day basis.

Particular interests and training opportunities

Within this training location there is a particular interest in the wider determinants of health and in using evidence-based methodologies to prevent ill-health. There are good opportunities to gain an understanding of partnership working, community engagement and involvement, and commissioning for health improvement. More senior registrars are encouraged to develop their leadership experience and to start to lead on agreed areas of work.

Halton Public Health team are uniquely placed to provide the very broadest range of public health experiences, being the only public health team within the North West (possibly nationally) to be fully integrated with the Environmental Health team and Public Protection services.

The close nature of partner agencies and development of novel system wide approaches provides invaluable opportunities to gain experience of high-level system leadership approaches in action and develop experience of working within a culture of innovation from the highest level.

What's in it for you?

- All registrars are provided with a laptop and phone and any other IT/working equipment as needed.
- Registrars are a member of the Public Health management team and have access to admin and project support.
- The team are based at Runcorn Town Hall which is situated in a beautiful park area and offers free parking for staff. The building is fully accessible.
- Flexible and remote working is available
- You'll have access to a wide range of employee initiatives geared towards looking after, managing and improving mental and physical health.
- Wide range of training and learning opportunities, both corporately and within the Public Health Team.
- Halton has excellent travel links across Cheshire and Merseyside, connecting you to great work, social and leisure opportunities including a broad selection of shops, restaurants, cinemas, leisure facilities, libraries, parks and museums.



The rings below contain those courses that link directly to the Organisational Development Strategy.
Why not take a look to enhance your knowledge and see how you can contribute to the goals of our organisation.



Halton is a great place to work but don't take our word for it!

This is what our recent registrars have said...

"I've been made to feel really welcome in Halton and I've been given the right balance of responsibility and support for my stage of training. It's a friendly team who've really pulled together during the COVID-19 pandemic and I'm proud to have been part of such a comprehensive response to contact tracing, testing and vaccination and I've particularly enjoyed being able to lead on the support to education settings, as well as offering consultant-level cover to the response.

Beyond COVID, I've been reporting directly to the DPH on strategy and intelligence work for the Health and Wellbeing Board and for the Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership, as well as getting interesting opportunities, such as providing the public health input to a COMAH emergency planning exercise. I've delivered teaching sessions for hospital doctors and will be supervising an FY2 doctor in the coming months.

I appreciated being asked to contribute to senior-level meetings within and beyond the department. Support for achieving public health training requirements and general pastoral support has been excellent and I'd recommend Halton to any registrar."

Dr Matthew Atkinson, ST4, 2020-21

"The public health team has wide-ranging expertise and a broad portfolio. I have found that there is opportunity to get involved across different areas, develop ideas and lead on new pieces of work.

I have been able to do a variety of pieces of work, including: supporting with schools COVID-19 advice; evaluating a programme to provide free activities and nutritious meals for children during school holidays; reviewing local health needs and approaches around affordable warmth and presenting findings to the One Halton place-based Board; coordinating journal club sessions and supporting F2 placement doctors; and engaging with stakeholders to produce the updated drugs strategy.

I would highly recommend Halton as a placement location."

Dr Anne Doble, ST2, 2022-23



Since I transferred into Halton from Dorset I have been welcomed with open arms. I've been able to benefit from the expertise of the team in many ways and have been fully supported during a difficult time by supervisors and DPH alike.

The team has a great blend of caring and compassion allied with a drive to achieve good outcomes for local residents. The Public Health function in Halton is different from most other areas as its Health Improvement function is in-house. This presents a unique opportunity within the region to be closer to the coalface if that's your thing.

Given the local population face some of the most difficult challenges in the region, it's not only a great place to train and gain experience, but also one where you could thrive longer term."

Adam Major, Public Health Registrar ST3

Our networks and links

Helping to connect and support your training journey

Academic links

There are good links with local Universities, including Liverpool University, Liverpool John Moores University, Chester and Salford University, and opportunities to collaborate on pieces of work. Ifeoma's NIHR role developing research opportunities also provides additional exposure to regional research opportunities.

Clinical governance/CPD

The public health team provide opportunities for continuous professional development and learning. There are regular team meetings where time is set aside for clinical governance and learning. Senior registrars are given the opportunity to organise learning events for the team and are encouraged to support and engage in the journal club.

Foundation doctors teaching and supervision

Registrars in Halton are able to contribute to the delivery of Public Health teachings for F1 doctors, one-to-one learning sessions for F2 doctors as well as acting in a supervisory role.

Halton Public Health host Foundation 2 doctors on their 4-month rotation. This provides opportunities for Public Health registrars to deliver one-to-one learning sessions in various aspects of public health. The F2 doctors undertake a wide variety of projects and there is an opportunity for senior registrars to supervise some of the projects.

For example, one of the F2 doctors produced a Needs Assessment on Unaccompanied Syrian Children (UASC) under the supervision of a senior registrar. This work won the FPH Sam Ramaiah Award which rewards projects seeking to improve the health of black and minority ethnic communities or reduce health inequalities in the United Kingdom.

Examples of Registrars' work

- Support the production of the GP practice health profiles
- Evidence review of arts and health
- Evaluation of long-term conditions pilot
- Support the production of the public health annual report
- Project managed the setting up of a breastfeeding incentive programme
- Evaluation of Healthy Start Vitamins Pilot
- Researched and compiled the Suicide Audit
- Survey into public perceptions and public engagement on air quality
- Lead for reducing alcohol harm
- Lead for child and maternal public health
- Lead on the delivery of the community conversation around alcohol (Alcohol inquiry)
- Fuel poverty Needs Assessment
- Development of Affordable Warmth strategy
- Lead for Affordable Warmth strategy
- Review of sexual health service
- Review of non-clinical HIV support service
- Commissioning substance misuse services
- Working with trading standards to support people who are victims of scams.
- Work with the CCG to pilot having a paediatrician working within the community
- Health Needs assessment into young offenders' health
- Cross health and care economy system wide strategic development