**Training location profile: Lancashire County Council**

**Lancashire County Council**

Lancashire County Council (LCC) is one of the largest local authorities in England, serving a population of 1.3 million residents and employing over 35,000 staff. LCC is an upper tier authority and works closely with 12 district level authorities, providing excellent opportunities to obtain experience of working in a two tier system and the ability to influence the wider determinants of health. LCC works alongside and provides public health expertise for six Clinical Commissioning Groups, which presents opportunities for securing experience in healthcare public health. LCC is undergoing large-scale organizational change, providing opportunities to obtain experience of change-management processes.

**Public health in Lancashire**

Lancashire is a county of contrasts. Physically, the county includes rural, urban and coastal environments, each presenting different public health challenges. Demographically, Lancashire includes some of the most and least deprived areas in England, with a ten year life expectancy gap (male) between the least and most disadvantaged areas. As such, the public health challenges in Lancashire are complex and diverse. Examples of these issues include: inequalities in health and socio-economic disadvantage, an ageing population and rural health access. Addressing these issues requires innovative, critical thinking alongside evidence-based practice.

The Public Health and Wellbeing Team at LCC is led by Director of Public Health, Dr Sakthi Karunanithi. Public health efforts are focussed through three broad work programmes: Starting Well; Living Well; and Ageing Well. These programmes are delivered by three locality teams across Lancashire: East (Burnley), Central (Preston) and North (Lancaster). LCC Health and wellbeing reports and data are available from: <http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/web/?JSNA_Home/35157>.

**Lancashire County Council as a training location**

There are four Educational Supervisors (including the winner of the FPH Trainer of the Year Award) at LCC and office accommodation is available at each of the three locality bases. LCC provides flexible working for StRs which is supported by the provision of laptops and mobile phones.

StRs considering a placement at LCC are encouraged to contact the Lead Trainer, Mike Leaf (Mike.Leaf@Lancashire.gov.uk) or Dr Zakyeya Atcha (Zakyeya.Atcha@Lancashire.gov.uk) to discuss opportunities. StRs at LCC are able to gain experience across a wide range of public health work topics with opportunities to fulfil a wide range of learning outcomes. Specific opportunities include:

* working with CCGs including individual funding requests
* commissioning
* health improvement
* health protection and emergency planning
* health impact assessments
* cross organisational working with LCC teams including planning, environment, children's services, adult services and trading standards.

**Working in Lancashire**

Lancashire is well served by transport links, including the west coast mainline and the national motorway network. Living and/or working in Lancashire means that you can enjoy access to leisure activities in some of the most attractive scenery in in England, including several nature reserves and two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.