**PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING PROSPECTUS**

**Public Health Liverpool - an exciting Training Location**

Liverpool is a wonderful international city with a great sense of pride amongst its population of 491,549 and a unique identity. In the 1800s, more than 30% of the world’s trade was passing through its docks – now a World Heritage site. During the twentieth century, the city experienced a massive slump to its economy. Since the middle of the 1990s, Liverpool has undergone major redevelopment and planning, to revive the economy, including the massive Liverpool ONE shopping and leisure project in the heart of the city. This was completed in 2008 when Liverpool was crowned European Capital of Culture.

Against this backdrop, Liverpool faces huge public health challenges. It is the fourth most deprived local authority in the country, with one in three children living in poverty. In recent years, Liverpool has seen the largest cut per capita to its funding compared to other local authorities - a £816 financial loss for every city resident. This has resulted in Liverpool people being hit particularly hard by reductions in funding of local amenities such as schools, children centres and changes in social security payments. People have poorer health relative to others in England. Too many of our residents are dying prematurely from preventable causes, with residents expected to live 3 years less than the national average. There are also stark inequalities in health across the city, with men in the most deprived parts of Liverpool expected to live 10 years less than men in the least deprived areas.

Encouragingly, progress is being made in tackling health inequalities. People in the city are living longer than ever before. Life expectancy has increased by 2.5 years for women and 3.4 years for men since 2001/03. Over the same period, there has been a 51% reduction in premature mortality rate for cardiovascular disease. The inequality gap with England has reduced by more than half over the period. Premature deaths from cancer have fallen by 19% since 2001-03. In addition, the inequality gap with England has also reduced, falling by 16%. Smoking prevalence in Liverpool has fallen from 22.3% of adults in 2011 to 15.5% in 2017. This equates to almost 23,000 fewer smokers in the city. Childhood vaccination rates are excellent. Alcohol admission rates are reducing and teenage pregnancy rates are falling. Huge challenges remain and public health has a crucial role to play – working with partners to influence policy, investment, development and change to reduce the inequalities.

**Liverpool City Council’s Public Health Team**

Public Health Liverpool is a unique public health team, combining the skills of public health consultants, data specialists, evidence reviewers and insight and social marketing specialists. We are working across sectors to increase the focus on prevention of ill-health and early detection. We have experience in implementing large scale innovative programmes, including around smoking and alcohol. We have large scale programmes to build skills in staff to deliver brief advice to improve health. We are working through local authority regulation to develop healthier local environments, for example, enforcing existing legislation to prevent individuals who are excessively drunk being served alcohol and supporting healthier planning policy around fast-food takeaways.

We have a strong advocacy function with current priority advocacy areas including advocating for further evidence around e-cigarettes as a gateway into smoking, for minimum unit pricing for alcohol and for sustainable walking and cycling initiatives which tackle health inequalities. As a City we have signed up to the Local Authority Declaration on Healthy Weight, and the Fast Track Cities initiative on HIV. We are also working to ensure that we promote a Health in all Policies and Places approach, as identified as a key driver within the Mayor’s Inclusive Growth Plan.

Liverpool is also part of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, and we are keen to ensure connections with Cities across Europe, to develop networks of learning and action. We also link closely with all our University Partners, and ensure our engagement in research bids that will benefit the local population.

We have a strong intelligent analysis function and provide expert advice and guidance to commissioners and policy makers. We carry out statistical modelling of diseases and health trends and the impact of interventions on current and future health needs. We have expertise in geo-demographic profiling of diseases and lifestyles to inform targeted interventions. We can identify where outcomes are poor and need to be improved, whether certain groups are more disadvantaged than others, where outcomes are good and can be built on further, what may be emerging issues for the future that we might need to prevent now. Through combining this intelligence with evidence of what interventions are effective, commissioners can target scarce resources to areas of greatest need, and where they will have the greatest impact.

Customer insight and social marketing is rapidly rising up the agenda for public sector organisations. Public sector expectations of local services are growing, and only by truly understanding what is really important to people can a service be efficient and effective. Public Health Liverpool develop innovative insight techniques and deliver award-winning social marketing campaigns, with considerable success in improving services, changing health strategies, and impacting positively on health behaviours.

**The Public Health Team**

Liverpool has a strong public health team of 36 led by a widely experienced consultant team who are enthusiastic about training. We strongly value our public health speciality registrars, and encourage and support registrars to take on new challenges. Your portfolio will be based on your training and development needs and the opportunities available. Registrars have a named trainer but have the opportunity to work on diverse projects supervised by different consultants.

We can host up to 4 registrars at different stages in their training. When you are working for part A or B, there are trainers who are willing to help you prepare. We may also host trainees from other specialties gaining experience in public health. The Public Health team is based in the majestic Cunard Building—one of the Three Graces on the waterfront.

Our setting in local government is an exciting place to learn. We have excellent relationships across the council and with elected members, and with Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group, Public Health England, NHS England and key partners. As a team, we continue to learn how best to work in new ways to influence the health of the population. The devolution deal for Liverpool City Region brings a number of new opportunities to influence population health.

There are good links, including joint training positions, with the academic departments in Liverpool University and John Moores’ University, and we are part of an active research and development group lead by Liverpool CCG. Registrars are encouraged to participate in academic forums.

In these times of change, we will ensure that the training remains relevant and you get a robust training experience to equip you for the future.

**Current trainers**

Our consultant team including Director of Public Health are all accredited trainers.

**Dr Sandra Davies, Director of Public Health**

Sandra is the principal advisor on health and wellbeing at Liverpool City Council, reporting directly to the Chief Executive.  Sandra is a key member of the Council’s Executive Management Team and also a prominent member of the Health and Wellbeing Board

**Mr Martin Smith,** Consultant in Public Health – Wider Determinants, Children and Young People & Commissioning.

Martin holds a broad portfolio of work within public health, with a brief to support the embedding of public health across upstream functions and workstreams in Liverpool City Council. This includes providing public health leadership for children and young people alongside raising awareness of the wider determinants to influence colleagues and stakeholders in their activities. Martin also leads the commissioning function for public health commissioned services in order to support preventive/upstream approaches.

**Dr Paula Parvulescu,** Consultant in Public Health Medicine – Healthcare Public Health

Paula leads the public health support to Liverpool CCG and NHS partners, with a clear focus on population health. Recently, she took the lead role for the health in all policies work across Liverpool City Council, aiming at orienting the entire system towards prevention and creating health & wellbeing through the entire business of the council. Paula also leads the non-communicable diseases prevention work for Liverpool and takes an active role in the development of the insight and social marketing projects in the department. Paula is a member of the NICE Technology Appraisal Committee D and of the Cheshire and Merseyside Clinical Senate.

**Dr Emer Coffey,** **Health Protection, Consultant in Public Health Medicine.**

Emer leads on the health protection function at Liverpool City Council, overseeing health protection arrangements across the city, and advising the CCG on health protection issues. Emer also provides consultant leadership for teams leading strategic work on drugs, alcohol, sexual health, adult health improvement including smoking, and public health neighbourhood working.

There are lots of exciting opportunities for registrars to work with partners across all of these areas, including local work to tackle antimicrobial resistance, quality improvement work to improve vaccination uptake, health emergency planning and involvement in incidents, outbreaks and exercises, work to increase HIV testing, as we are now a high HIV prevalence area, and multiagency work on alcohol.

**Experience of our current trainees**

**Senior Trainee experiences: Melisa Campbell MFPH**

*“I am an ST5 trainee in Public Health and have been based in Public Health Liverpool since November 2018.  Since arriving 3 months ago, I have already gained fantastic experiences in working at consultant level on core public health matters, including healthy weight, health checks and a new social model of care for Liverpool.  Stand out opportunities have included establishing a healthy weight steering group and action plan, via implementing Public Health England’s new Whole Systems Approach methodology for tackling system drivers for unhealthy weight.  As part of this agenda, I’ve supported a healthier planning policy around fast-food takeaways and I am currently exploring research grant opportunities for consumer behaviour change related to sugary snacks and drinks.*

*I enjoy working in the dynamic, motivated and supportive Liverpool City Council's Public Health Department. As a senior trainee, I am invited to join in consultant levels business discussions and regularly attend Senior Management Team.  I feel my contributions are valued and these opportunities provide me with an essential understanding of consultant level commitments and interactions, which will hold me a good stead for my first consultant post.”*

**Junior Trainee experiences: Dr Rob Green**

*“I am an ST2 trainee in Public Health, having been based at Liverpool City Council since August 2017. During the first year of training I was well supported while I completed my Masters in Public Health at Liverpool University, being based in the council one day a week. I had the opportunity to work on health and the planning system, writing a briefing for the Mayoral Lead for Health, and contributed to the development of a city wide Cardiovascular Disease Strategy, while gaining a better understanding of how different organisations contribute to health across the city.*

*In my second year of training I have been leading on producing a mental health and wellbeing JSNA, a large piece of work which has felt daunting at times, but has provided lots of valuable experience. The department here is busy, but colleagues are supportive and there is always lots of interesting work going on, and it’s fascinating to be part of wider efforts to improve the health of such a dynamic city.”*

**For further information**

If you would like to discuss Liverpool City Council, Public Health Department as a potential placement, please contact Martin Smith, via tracy.alexander@liverpool.gov.uk