**TAMESIDE COUNCIL TRAINING LOCATION**

**Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (TMBC)**

Tameside is one of ten metropolitan boroughs that make up Greater Manchester. It lies between Manchester and the Pennines. Tameside has a population of around 235,000 and includes the towns of Ashton-under-Lyne, Audenshaw, Denton, Droylsden, Dukinfield, Hyde, Mossley, Longdendale and Stalybridge.

Tameside faces some substantial public health challenges. Tameside suffers from relatively high levels of deprivation: more than one in three of people here live in one of the poorest fifth of areas in England. Child poverty is worse than average for England and the North West. Rates of early death have improved, but there are still big differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between more and less deprived areas of Tameside.

Tameside has a strong history of integrated working across the wider system. This has continued to develop with the introduction of the Integrated Care Board (ICB) across Greater Manchester and for the Tameside locality. The current Chief Executive at the council, Sandra Stewart is also the Place Based Lead for Tameside, as part of the GM ICB.

There is also a strong history of work across the third sector and at neighbourhood level with integrated neighbourhood teams and Primary Care Networks (PCNs), which present further opportunities to support residents in different ways. Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust run the local hospital, Tameside General, as well as some of the community services, including our community infection prevention and control team. Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust deliver the mental health and learning disability services in Tameside and half of GM. We have established relationships with both trusts and work closely with them as a health and care system.

There is also a strong approach to prevention and tackling inequalities with the Health & Wellbeing Board for Tameside having a Charter committing to preventative approaches, collaborative working, focusing on the wider determinants of health and tackling inequalities. In 2023 a new Joint Health & wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan for Tameside has been published which brings together the long term vision for improving health and wellbeing outcomes and tackling inequalities in the long term, with the delivery of health and care across the borough.

**The Tameside Public Health Team**

The Public Health team sits within Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and carries out key public health commissioning as well as broader, system-wide strategic population health work. Public Health is a standalone directorate within the council, with the Director of Public Health reporting to the Chief Executive of the council. Like many other councils, we currently have a hybrid approach to the workplace with a mix of home working and coming in to the office, which is primarily at Tameside One in the centre of Ashton-under-Lyne. Our senior team spend 2-3 days a week in the office on average.

We are a friendly, energetic team, led by our Director of Public Health Debbie Watson who has working in Tameside for a number of years and currently leads on a number of work streams across the Directors of Public Health for Greater Manchester, including being the Chair of the Greater Manchester Public Health Leadership Network. . We have two educational supervisors in the team, James Mallion (Assistant Director of Public Health) who is the lead trainer, and Dr Anne Whittington (Consultant in Public Health). James and Anne have both come to their roles in Tameside after qualifying through the training scheme in recent years. James has lots of experience working in local government, particularly in Tameside and Anne has experience working clinically in the NHS. There are a diverse range of roles and experience across the team with staff working in a matrix approach as well as some staff having more specialist roles and areas. There is also an in-house Health Improvement service as part of Tameside’s Public Health team, which is called Be Well. This is the front line health and wellbeing service offering smoking cessation, weight management, NHS Health Checks and other support for residents across the community.

Registrars can expect to be both challenged and supported during their time at Tameside. Whether in early stages of training with the MPH, Faculty exams and StR network responsibilities, or in latter stages of training looking to meet key competencies and get vital experience working up to consultant level. We are keen to tailor work around your learning to ensure you gain the experience you need. We have supported trainees at both ends of the training scheme, including in ‘acting consultant’ roles.

Relevant public health reports and recent needs assessments can be found on our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment webpage [here](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/publichealth/healthandwellbeing).

**Training Opportunities in Tameside**

Our position in both the council and the wider system, having close links to other services and local partners, including the health and care sector, means that there are a wide range of opportunities for placements in Tameside. And as part of Greater Manchester and the North West, there are opportunities to get involved in a huge range of projects at different levels as we work closely with the GM Integrated Care Board, including the Population Health team, the GM Combined Authority and colleagues in relevant teams in UKHSA and OHID.

The Tameside Public Health team covers a wide range of work areas. These span the life-course, as well as addressing key areas of commissioning such as substance misuse; sexual health; health visiting and starting well. The team has a high profile within the organisation and works closely with a number of services including Children’s Services; Adults Services; Community Safety; Environmental Health; employment & Skills; Planning; Licensing; Policy. There are some wider areas of work which Public Health leads on in Tameside, which may not be the case in all areas. These include Domestic Abuse; Poverty; and Serious Violence. There are many inequalities and issues associated with high levels of deprivation across the borough, which create lots of opportunities for meaningful and challenging work.

Public health intelligence analysis is at the heart of how we work in Tameside, and there are opportunities to develop skills in the analysis and use of health data to guide public health work including health needs assessments and contributing to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

The team have extremely strong links across all our partners which provides learning opportunities around building strong professional relationships across the system, as well as the opportunity to work with a wide range of people. Our strong relationships across partners such as the police, fire & rescue service and housing associations, as well as departments within the council such as work & skills and environmental health mean there are many opportunities to work on improving the wider determinants of health.

**Recent SpR Projects:**

* **Supporting Primary Care Networks on specific projects (hypertension case finding & evaluation; implementation of new locally commissioned service)**
* **Leading stakeholder engagement around wider workforce domestic abuse training**
* **Supporting research and writing of local suicide audit**
* **Gambling-related harm lead (cross-GM work)**
* **Policy development around alcohol licensing**
* **Health Needs Assessments (Drugs & Alcohol Hidden Harm; Sexual Health; Domestic Abuse)**
* **Health Protection – MMR immunisation uptake review / Covid-19 outbreak plan development and contact tracing**
* **Supporting development of suicide prevention strategy and working group**
* **Supporting development of Falls Prevention Strategy**

**The Office and Travel**

Tameside One is our main office, located in Ashton-under-Lyne town centre. As mentioned above, we currently have hybrid working arrangements. All of the larger council meetings are now held in-person but smaller day-to-day meetings are often on Teams or Zoom. There is opportunity to base yourself in the office full time should you wish to do so, but most of the team split their week between home and office working. Registrars would be expected to follow a similar arrangement and to attend the office for in-person meetings where necessary (or by personal preference) but will likely also spend time working from home.

Tameside is a great placement for sustainable travel with links into Manchester Victoria via train (12 minutes), Manchester Piccadilly via tram (30-35 minutes) or over to Huddersfield and Leeds in the opposite direction on the train. The tram and train stations in Ashton are both a 2 minute walk from the council building.

Tameside council’s head office at Tameside One in Ashton-under-Lyne includes secure bike storage inside the building, showers and lockers which can be used to store clothing if you cycle/walk/run commute. It is close to the town centre and less than a mile from Stamford park for a lunch time walk.

The council also have buildings in some of the other towns in Tameside and occasionally meetings will be held in these locations as well, although it is much less frequent.

**Statements from current and former trainees**

*Evangelie Dunn*

I was on placement at Tameside during my ST1 and ST2 years in the training scheme, during which I was given the opportunity to undertake a broad variety of projects which were tailored to my learning needs, working with internal and external stakeholders across the health and care system in Tameside. Through this I was able to develop a number of skills including those relating to health needs assessment, teaching, stakeholder engagement, commissioning and policy development. The team at Tameside were extremely welcoming and the educational supervision was always focussed upon my development needs and interests, as well as facilitating my commitments around the MPH, Diplomate exam and StR Network roles. [Evangelie.dunn1@nhs.net](mailto:Evangelie.dunn1@nhs.net)

*Simon Watts*

I have been with Tameside for 16 months having joined as an ST1. I have really enjoyed my time here and have been given responsibility for a number of projects that have fit well with other registrar commitments, such as the MPH and Part A. The supervision has been really supportive and there has been a real focus on work that will build my experience, as well as contributing to the wider local agenda. The projects I have worked on have helped my development, allowed me to build my networks across the strategic commission and have made me feel like I’ve made a real impact to the local population. It is a really friendly and welcoming team, which I quickly came to feel part of. [Simon.richard.watts@gmail.com](mailto:Simon.richard.watts@gmail.com)

*Steven Senior*

This was my first post on the training scheme. I have had challenging and meaningful projects to work on, particularly analysing admissions data with support from the public health intelligence lead. I have had the opportunity to present my findings to senior audiences and feel that I have been able to have an impact right from the start of my training. [steven.senior@nhs.net](mailto:steven.senior@nhs.net)

For further information or for an informal discussion about coming to work in Tameside, please feel free to contact:

James Mallion, Assistant Director of Public Health / Public Health Consultant (Lead Trainer) [james.mallion@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:james.mallion@tameside.gov.uk) / 0161 342 2328