

Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council: Training Prospectus



Introduction to Bolton

Bolton is a former mill town located in Greater Manchester. Bolton has a population of 285,400, a number expected to increase over the next 10 years. In addition to its ageing population, Bolton also has a larger than average population of younger people. Bolton is rich in diversity, with 20.6% of the population from a BME background. Bolton's population structure generates challenges with falls, dementia, health visiting, school readiness and service planning.

Bolton also experiences inequalities with areas of affluence and severe deprivation. The least deprived populations are expected to live 10 years longer than the most deprived. The gap to the England average has reduced over the years, but has now plateaued at 2.3 years for men and 2.1 years for women. Bolton's inequalities are primarily caused by cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes. The projected increase in these conditions risks widening inequalities in the future.

Bolton Council Priorities

1. Giving our children the best possible start in life, so that they have every chance to succeed and be happy
2. Improving the health and wellbeing of our residents, so that they can live healthy, fulfilling lives for longer
3. Supporting older people in Bolton to stay healthier for longer, and to feel more connected with their communities
4. Attracting businesses and investment to the Borough, matching our workforce's skills with modern opportunities and employment
5. Protecting and improving our environment, so that more people enjoy it, care for it and are active in it
6. Developing stronger, cohesive, more confident communities in which people feel safe, welcome and connected

Trainee Capacity

Bolton Council can provide placements for both phase 1 and phase 2 trainees. One ST1 place is available every two years (next availability August 2019) and one ST3-5 placement is available annually.

Location

The public health department is located on the first floor, Bolton Town Hall. The building is easily accessible via train or bus and there are several car parks close by. There are good transport links to central Manchester and Preston. The Town Hall is located in the centre of Bolton Town, providing ready access to numerous shops and places to eat. In addition, Bolton town centre has a cinema, the Octagon Theatre (under refurbishment), a museum and Bolton Albert Halls.

Bolton's clinical commissioning group (CCG) moved in to the Town Hall in February 2019, providing opportunities for further joint working between the CCG and the public health department.

The Public Health Department

Bolton's public health department currently sits within the Department of People, although this is under review given the recent appointment (January 2019) of a full time Director of Public Health (DPH), who reports directly into the Chief Executive Officer. The small and friendly team includes:

- **Director of Public Health:** Dr Helen Lowey
- **Consultants in Public Health:** Nicki Lomax, Suzanne Gilman, Sue Longden (all educational supervisors)
- **Heads of Service:** Marie Bisset, Leesa Hellings-Lamb, Bryony O'Connor
- **Programme Managers:** Lee Houghton, Dawn Lythgoe, Munisha Savania, Gary Bickerstaffe
- **Public Health Intelligence:** Shan Wilkinson, Chris Kirk, Michael Cook

There is a Senior Leadership Team under the leadership of the DPH, as well as a wider public health meeting every month to discuss the latest team and council developments. There is also a recently established monthly journal club (which trainees will have the opportunity to co-ordinate and lead).

Trainee Resources

The public health department operates a hot desk policy, and a desk (including a computer and telephone) will be available for trainees every day. Laptops are also available for remote working and meetings. Trainees will be provided with a locker and the opportunity to join the tea club!

Trainees will meet regularly with their educational supervisor to discuss their learning needs and work progress. Supervisors are supportive of trainee MPH and Part A/B exam needs and commitments. Opportunities to attend courses, conferences and registrar networks meetings are also supported and encouraged.

Public Health Work

Bolton Council is currently at an exciting stage of development due to the arrival of our new DPH in January 2019. There is therefore opportunity for a wide range of work projects and priority areas which should meet the needs of trainees at all levels. These include but are not limited to:

- Public Health Annual Report (design; develop; write)
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Health Needs Assessments for a range of specific priorities
- Health and Wellbeing strategy development and engagement
- Life course and whole system strategies
- Involvement in designing and developing the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Adverse Childhood Experiences, taking a cultural change approach working with communities
- Addressing inequalities in Bolton via data, evidence, needs, assets and strategy development
- Place-based integrated health and social care transformation
- Health in all policies across the Council
- Giving every child the best start in life and reducing child poverty

Contact Details for Lead Trainer

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