

TRAINING PROSPECTUS WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



The Town Hall Golden Gates

1. INTRODUCTION

Why Warrington?

It is said that Warrington is where the north begins when travelling up the M6 or on the west coast mainline, or where the north ends if you are coming down from the north. It is an intriguing mix of cultures from the more affluent “old Cheshire” areas to the areas with a grittier, industrial past. It has been very successful at developing business and keeping unemployment low.

Warrington is big enough to make a difference and small enough to care. It is on a scale that allows everyone in the team, including the trainees, to make a tangible difference. You won't be a cog in large impersonal machine. You will be exposed to real challenges, and be expected to see them through, and get full recognition for the work that you do. It is a non-hierarchical organisation, led by the example of the Chief Executive, who speaks to anyone, has an open door policy and welcomes comments from all.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE TRAINING LOCATION

Warrington is approved by the Faculty of Public Health for 2 Specialty Registrars. Warrington also arranges public health placements for registrars from other disciplines and undergraduates. Trainees are co-located with the public health team and are considered an integral part of the team. Recent trainees have joined us on paediatrics registrar rotation, Sports and Health undergraduate programme, Environmental Health officer placement, and overseas placement for a student from Faculty of Health Management, Université de Lille, France.

2.1 Location

As a place to live and work, Warrington is a good choice. Its travel connections are unsurpassed – the M6, M62 and M56, and the west coast mainline and Trans Pennine train routes, all connect to the town.

The Public Health Team are based in the centre of the town, in New Town House, Buttermarket Street, Warrington WA1 2NH. Car parking is available although charged at the local rate and therefore use of public transport is encouraged. Warrington Central railway station is a short walk away. Secure cycle stores are available.

2.2 The Public Health Department and training

The public health department has 27 people. There are two consultants (including the DPH), and office support provided by two people. There is a Commissioning team, Knowledge and Intelligence, and health improvement team.

With the transfer into local authority, the team expanded to include the DAAT, Housing and Neighbourhood teams. This has improved the reach and influence of public health within the council and the town, and affords additional training opportunities.

2.3 Accredited Trainers / Educational Supervisors



Dr Rita Robertson, Director of Public Health is the lead trainer in the council. Dr Muna Abdel Aziz is an experienced consultant and trainer; who also covers the role of Training Programme Director for Cheshire and Merseyside.

All registrars are supervised by the accredited trainer and supported by other key members of the Senior Public Health team to complete programmes of work and gain competencies.

- Dave Bradburn, Principal in Public Health covering universal public health
- Jan Holding, Public Health Principal covering targeted public health
- Jane Knight, Senior Health Improvement Specialist
- Tracy Flute, Head of Public Health Knowledge & Intelligence
- Cathy Fitzgerald, Head of Substance Misuse (DAAT)
- Jane Critchley, Head of Neighbourhoods
- Dave Cowley, Head of Housing
- Rebecca Mason, Senior Trainee (ST5) who will join Warrington in March 2016; and Acting Consultant from May to August 2016.

3. INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL LINKS

The Director of Public Health is a statutory officer of the council and is part of the council corporate management team. Public Health, Housing and Neighbourhoods is part of the Families and Wellbeing Directorate in WBC, and closely linked to Adult and Children's Social Care. The whole of the Council is oriented towards the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Strategic Commissioning Plan with five themes – healthy communities, starting well, living and working well, and ageing well.

The mix of affluent and deprived areas means that there is a challenging combination of socio economic circumstances within the town. It is a unitary authority, with one CCG and one principle hospital in the centre of the town.

The Council is within walking distance of many community and third sector organisations and the hospital. This improves the ease of communication with partners.

Working relationships between partners are close and there are many opportunities to develop programmes of work together. The town also has a successful rugby league team, which has an excellent award winning reputation for community working, and has close links with the Public Health Team; for example the successful 'Fit to Tackle' programme.

With a population of 203,000, Warrington is the first town to be awarded Healthy Cities membership in 2009 as part of the UK network. We are part of the Cheshire and Merseyside Public Health collaborative, which enables linked work across borders, especially on the Public Health offer to NHS commissioners, health protection, knowledge and intelligence and commissioning.

We also have strong links within Cheshire, with our fellow Public Health teams in Cheshire East and Cheshire West & Chester Councils and also through the Cheshire Health and Well Being Commission. There are good links with local Universities, including Liverpool University, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and Liverpool John Moores University.



Rugby League success!



The 2016 launch of the First Utility Super League



Second year 'running' of the English Half Marathon in Warrington

4. PARTICULAR INTERESTS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

So what are the advantages of training in Warrington?

- There is a breadth of socioeconomic circumstances, with marked inequalities within the town. The Public Health team keeps close track of these inequalities, and many are narrowing, but not as fast as we would wish, and the absolute gap remains very wide.
- It is a unitary authority with one CCG; therefore it presents a relatively uncomplicated set of relationships, allowing maximum effort to be expended on what we are here for i.e. actually improving and protecting health.
- We enjoy excellent relationships with NHSE, PHE and the wider PH Collaborative across Cheshire & Merseyside. We would encourage joint training opportunities with the public health and specialised commissioning services based in the Area Team.
- The Warrington Public Health Team has extremely strong partnerships within the Borough. We had the first shadow health and well-being board in the NW. Members of the Public Health Team work on the wider determinants with partners in the council, third sector and partners across the town.
- Warrington offers good training opportunities in :

Health Protection: Warrington has a strong system of public health governance in place; including the Health Protection Forum. We commission Infection Control services from our Community Trust, and work closely with the nurses to promote and protect health in the town. Warrington Council is particularly strong on health in planning. Public health are developing a joint programme with planning and environmental protection colleagues to respond to planning application consultations; and ultimately develop health impact assessments for the major developments. There is opportunity for trainees to help develop this work, especially regarding the strategic economic development in the region and the impact on Warrington. There are strong programmes of work with businesses, and to plan for health and social care estates into the future linked to growth in the town.
<http://www.healthycities.org.uk/select-a-city.php?s=208&catID=19>

Health Improvement: There is a team of commissioners and health improvement officers who either commission or programme manage health improvement initiatives. There is a comprehensive Health Improvement plan in place which is subject to monthly monitoring – so we know what we are doing to improve health, and whether it is having an impact. There are opportunities to work with other members of the public health team regarding Healthy Cities or inequalities in the town whereby Warrington has populations that are within the 20% most deprived and the 20% most affluent in England.

Whilst Warrington has a relatively affluent profile it has higher than expected death rates from cardiovascular disease and cancers. In addition the alcohol harm reduction agenda is very challenging particularly amongst women and young people. Another issue of concern is the high referral rate and the high usage of acute care within Warrington, and for social care. So the challenge in Warrington is for demand reduction overall, and to enable the less affluent inner parts of the town catch up with the outer more affluent areas. For an overview of the programme of work, visit www.warrington.gov.uk/publichealth

Knowledge and intelligence: The team provide a first rate service and rightly have done much to enhance the reputation of public health with the council and partners. There is an excellent library service for evidence based review services, which means that data and research evidence can be accessed within the public health team. A qualitative researcher is a part of the team, giving trainees the opportunity to improve their skills in this area. They team lead the JSNA process, which is available on www.warrington.gov.uk/info/201145/joint_strategic_needs_assessment

5. EXAMPLES OF RECENT TRAINEES' PROJECTS

Public Health Speciality Trainees

- Charlotte Simpson was the former Senior Trainee in Warrington 2014-15. Charlotte led the cardiovascular programme and the partnership with public protection in the council. Charlotte also contributed to the policy paper on the role of businesses in health and wellbeing. Charlotte went on to take on her first Consultant post in Cheshire East.
- Current trainees are Anna Varela-Raynes (ST3) and Lois Murray (ST1). They have contributed to evidence reviews and peer learning sets. The health needs assessment for employment in central Warrington is underway; and a proposal for peer mentors in sexual health.

Other trainees

- International student MPH dissertation to evaluate the impact of regeneration on health and wellbeing of deprived areas in Warrington – a study of Bewsey and Dallam.
- Undergraduate student who contributed to the messaging for Heatwave, Skin cancer and Hypertension campaigns in summer 2015;
- Environmental health trainee who contributed to the assessment of health impacts in a major planning application of warehouses in Omega; and final year BSc dissertation how HIAs add value to planning applications.
- Research into the impact of sports drinks/energy drinks on weight; guidance to secondary schools/colleges; and support to children's centres
- Improving A&E notifications data sent to school health and protocols for follow up. School health had reported that they spend 12% of their time on A&E follow up. Recommendations fed into the safeguarding board.
- MECC Level 2 training module for obesity, exploring whether the Map of Medicine pathway for overweight and obese children could be localised; and survey for the families who defaulted on the MEND programme.

6. FACILITIES

All registrars have their own computer and phone as members of the public health team.

7. CLINICAL GOVERNANCE / CPD

The public health team provide opportunities for continuous professional development and learning. There are monthly public health team meetings where time is set aside to share learning and updates across the team. A monthly PH Development session is also held monthly and this is a peer learning set to discuss current issues and challenges. Senior registrars can be given the opportunity to organise these learning events for the team.

Trainees also join the PH Governance quarterly meeting which provides the overall assurance of the programme of work, clinical and integrated governance, the public health grant, contracts, performance and risks. A recent Internal Audit gave a statement of Substantial Assurance for this aspect of our work.

As well as Training Programme Director, Dr Abdel Aziz is the International CPD Adviser for the Faculty of Public Health and is the Warrington lead for public health workforce development (linking into Cheshire and Merseyside Public Health collaborative).

8. CONTACTS

If you would like to discuss the possibilities of coming to work in Warrington, please contact Dr Muna I Abdel Aziz, on 01925 442032, or mabdelaziz@warrington.gov.uk



Walton Hall Gardens

January 2016