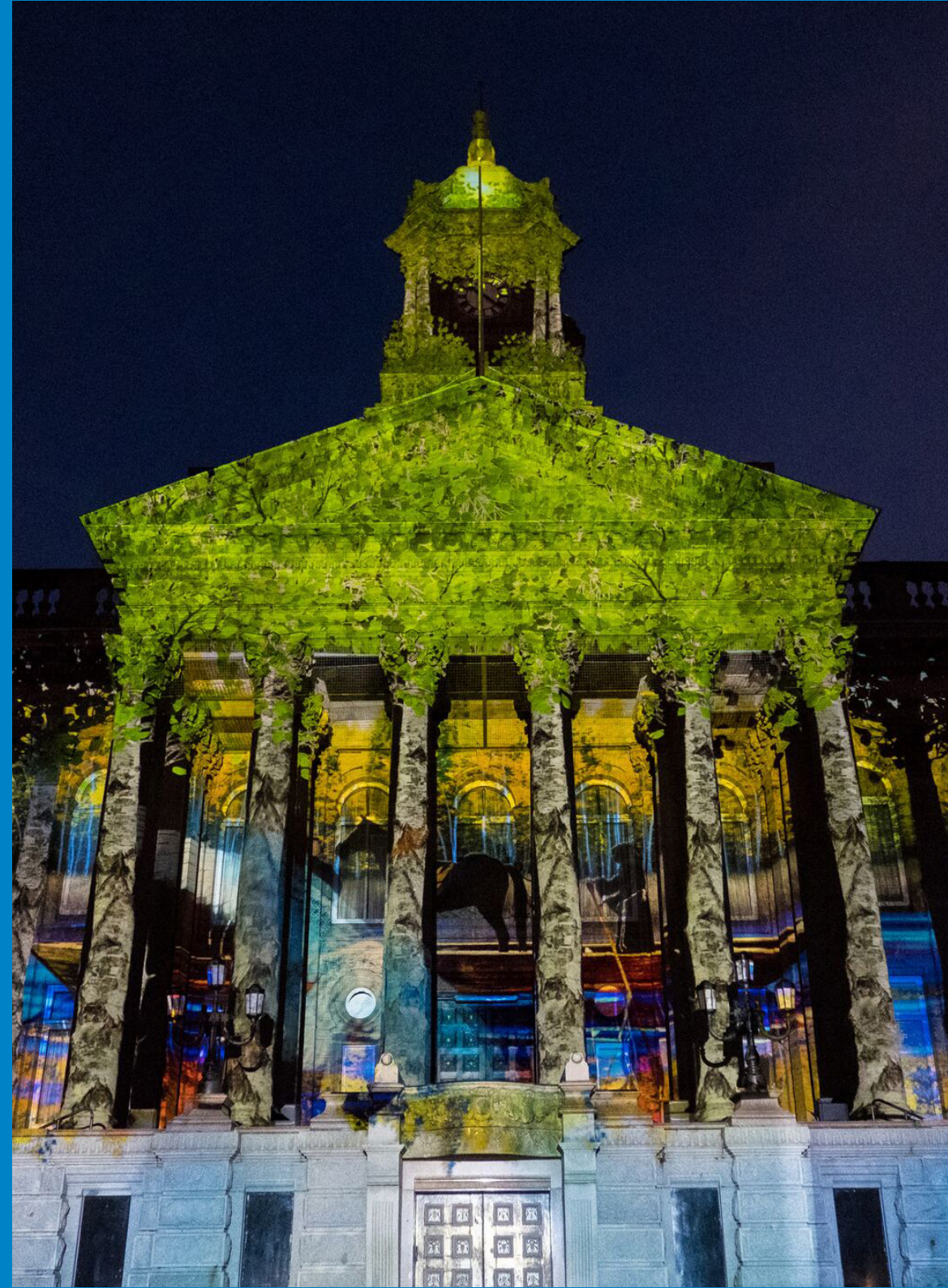




# Specialty Registrar Training Prospectus

## January 2025

Wirral Council Public Health Team



# Why Wirral

Wirral is an amazing place. Named as one of the happiest places to live in the UK, we are surrounded by beautiful beaches, parks and historic, industrial and maritime architecture. It is a great place to grow up, live and work. We are proud of our borough; our local partnerships are strong and our community spirit abundant. Wirral is however a borough of contrasts with some of the most affluent and deprived wards in the UK and where life expectancy varies by around 12 years between the rural and urban areas that sit alongside each other.

Wirral is the second largest Council in the Liverpool City Region; bigger than many cities, including Newcastle, Derby and Nottingham. These are exciting times in Wirral with the planned large-scale regeneration of the East of the borough being one of the biggest in Europe. Find out more and watch this video of the regeneration project in Birkenhead .

The Wirral Public Health Team are well respected within Wirral Council, with strong relationships across all directorates.

We also have strong local partnerships and have recently refreshed our [Wirral Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2027](#) with a strong focus upon improving the conditions and environments in which people in Wirral are born, grow, live, age, work and play. All local partners are signed up to the vision and an agreed approach to reduce health inequalities and improve population health outcomes. Unlike other local authorities in Merseyside Wirral Council has elected members from all the main political parties with representation from Labour, Conservatives, Liberal Democrats, and the Green Party.

Wirral has a strong voluntary, community and faith sector and partners work closely together to develop a new approach to working with local people.

**More information:** The Wirral Health and Wellbeing Strategy. [The Wirral JSNA](#) website and [State of the Borough Report](#). Further information about the work of Wirral Council and its partners can be found on [wirral.gov.uk](http://wirral.gov.uk) and on its news and updates platform, [wirralview.com](http://wirralview.com)







## Our Senior Leadership Team



**Dave** was appointed the Director of Public Health for Wirral in October 2022. Dave has over 30 years experience of working within Public Health within the North West of England. He began his career in Knowsley on an employment trainee scheme, which provided him with the grounding required to progress and build his career in Public Health. He is passionate about working with partners to improve health and reduce health inequalities and is committed to developing the public health workforce for the future. On behalf of Cheshire and Merseyside, he is lead DPH for hosting the Champs support team and addressing Child and Family Poverty.

**Dave Bradburn Director of Public Health**

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**Tracy** joined Wirral as Assistant Director/Consultant in Public Health in 2023. Whilst relatively new to Wirral, Tracy has over 20 years experience working in Public Health. She has a background in statistics and epidemiology and is committed to ensuring we use our collective intelligence to improve health and address inequalities. Tracy has worked at national level on the health inequalities agenda and is passionate about working with communities to truly understand needs and assets and address the wider determinants of health.

Tracy has a real interest in workforce development, she is Lead Trainer for Wirral and supports Registrars to achieve their learning outcomes. Tracy is also a UKPHR Assessor; and supports public health professionals who are pursuing Specialist Registration by Portfolio Assessment.

**Tracy Flute Assistant Director: Consultant in Public Health**

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**Jackie** joined the Wirral Public Health team in February 2024. Previously, she worked for 15 years in public health and 10 years in senior posts in the NHS, all in London. Her last post brought primary care and public health together as part of her role as Integrated Commissioning Director. She is a District Nurse by background, has an MBA and undertook her MPH at Liverpool University.

Jackie has extensive experience in Public Health, Primary and Community Care, and is passionate about reducing health inequalities, building public health capacity across the community workforce, and developing the contribution of provider organisations to public health. Jackie's current portfolio oversees addictions, health protection, healthcare public health, and sexual health at the Wirral.

**Jackie Davidson Assistant Director: Consultant in Public Health**

**Jane** began working in Wirral in 1998 as a research assistant in the Public Health team. Jane is the current Public Health consultant lead for Children, Young People and Families and is passionate about putting them at the heart of the council's and wider Wirral partnership's agenda for reducing inequalities. Working closely with colleagues in Children's Services in particular, she is committed to improving the support offer to all children, whilst ensuring a targeted approach to those who need it most.

**Jane Harvey Assistant Director: Consultant**

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**Jen** started working with Wirral's Public Health Team in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in 2021 she officially transferred from the Council's Strategic Change Team to Public Health. Jen is responsible for overseeing the Public Health business and delivery teams, and is currently studying part time for a Master's in Public Health with the University of Liverpool. She has a master's in business administration, is a qualified Project Manager and has over 15 years management experience, working in public and third sector organisations.

**Jen Smedley Head of Public Health Operations**

## What our registrars say

I joined Wirral for my final year of training to gain experience of working at consultant level before CCT. This is a split placement alongside the Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). Straight away I joined the senior leadership team (SLT) and was given portfolio areas to lead on, including Sexual Health and Addictions. SLT have been really supportive in this big step up for me, and I have also had opportunities to line manage someone and provide mentorship to a junior trainee.

Wirral has a large public health team with specific expertise in intelligence and qualitative insights. Bringing my two placements together, this has provided a really exciting opportunity to get involved in true community engagement in areas of Wirral most affected by serious and organised crime.

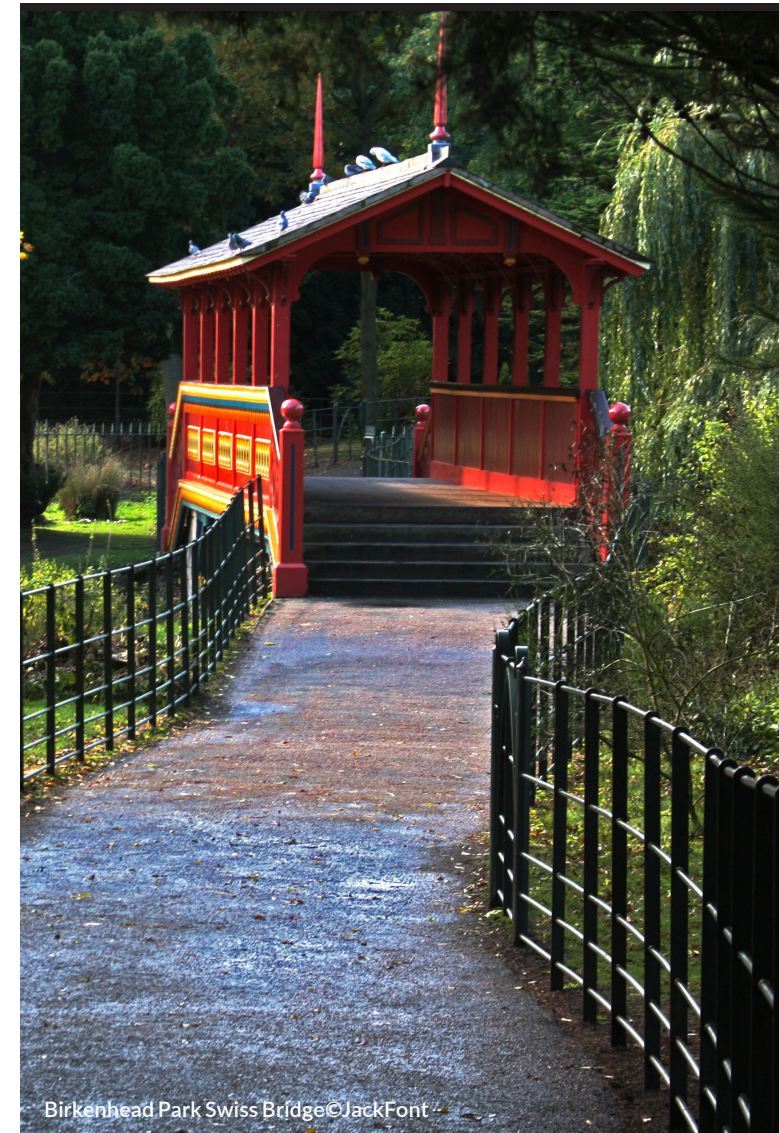
**Sophie Baird (ST5-current)**

I am an ST2 registrar currently based within Public Health Wirral, which has been a fantastic first placement! The team are all friendly and approachable and have helped me to get involved with different pieces of work. Examples of work on my placement so far include contributing to the Director of Public Health Annual Report called "Work in Progress" which presented borough wide recommendations for action, leading on developing our 'Reducing Harms from Gambling' strategy including multi-sector working, and am working on a workforce development framework for our public health team and the wider public health workforce.

I was well supported to study for my MPH during ST1 and was encouraged to combine my assignments with work happening in Wirral, including field visits with the Community Connectors service. This has helped me to really get to grips with the range of work being done across the borough by the team. This support has continued whilst preparing for the DFPH exam.

I would absolutely recommend Wirral as a training location and am very happy for other registrars to contact me with questions or for further information!

**Emma Pottle (ST2)**



Birkenhead Park Swiss Bridge © JackFont

## The Public Health Team

Wirral has an experienced public health team with staff from a wide variety of backgrounds, providing a wealth of experience and learning opportunities. We have recently restructured our Public Health team and we have experienced Public Health Principals, Senior Public Health Practitioners and Practitioners leading on range of programmes of work to address the underlying determinants of health, protect health and reduce inequalities.

The team includes a research and intelligence function with staff who specialise in quantitative data analysis and epidemiology, and staff with a wealth of experience in qualitative research who undertake in-depth work and provide rich insight into the needs and assets within our communities. We also have an operational delivery team, with staff who are out and about working within key settings to help deliver messages, raise awareness, and improve health and wellbeing in our communities.

We have a long history of hosting registrars who then go on to do wonderful things. Registrars are a key part of our team in Wirral, and due to our size, we often host at least two registrars each year at different phases in training. We also host GP registrars who undertake placements with our public health team, and we have opportunities for graduates and apprentices within the team too. All of this means we are well set up to offer a supportive learning environment. Wirral Council also hosts the Cheshire and Merseyside Public Health Collaborative (ChaMPs).





# Location

Wirral Public Health Team is based at the main Wirral Council offices; Mallory Building, 2 Alice Ker Square, Birkenhead CH41 2AB. The state-of-the-art new office building is situated in the heart of Birkenhead town centre and commercial district and is a key strand of the regeneration of Birkenhead.

We currently work to a flexible, hybrid model, with an expectation to be in the office a couple of days per week, working remotely the rest of the time.



## Getting here

The Mallory Building is well located for travel across Cheshire and Merseyside, and the Northwest with excellent road and public transport links, and provision for active travel.

### By public transport

- Conway Park Train Station is a five-minute walk.
- Birkenhead Central Train Station is a nine-minute walk.
- Birkenhead Bus Station is a two-minute walk away. Numerous buses run to and from Birkenhead. Further details can be found on the Merseytravel website.

### By car

The building is close to the Queensway tunnel providing quick vehicular access to Liverpool City Centre and onward to the M62. It is also located close to the M53 motorway providing convenient access to Chester, North Wales and Greater Manchester. There are a number of car parks close by.

### Active Travel

The building has a cycle store, showers, and heated lockers for those wishing to cycle in.



## Want to know more

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss Wirral Council Public Health Team as a potential placement, please contact our lead trainer Tracy Flute.

**Email:** [tracyflute@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:tracyflute@wirral.gov.uk)