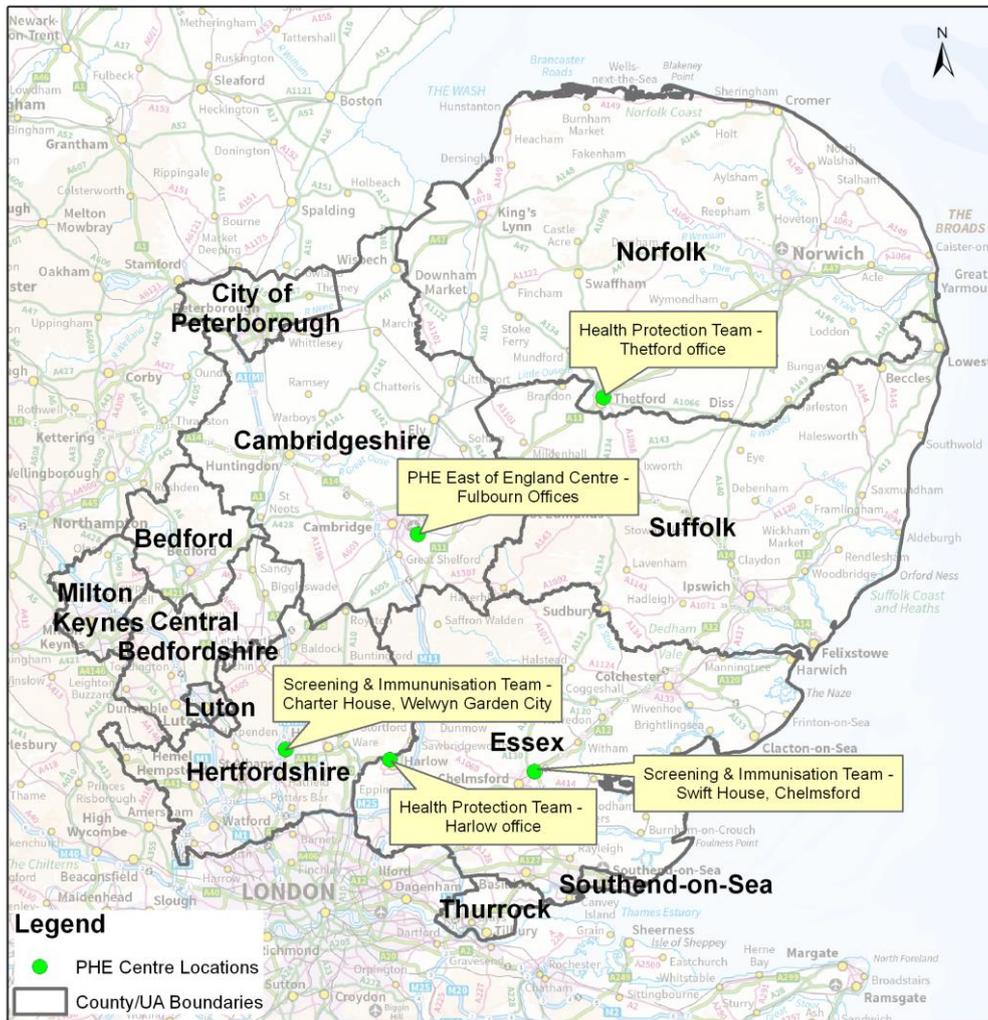




Public Health England (PHE) East of England: Training Prospectus



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Introduction

PHE East of England is the local presence for Public Health England¹ (PHE) - the national public health agency for England. This includes the PHE East of England Centre, the Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service (LKIS), the Field Epidemiology Service (FES), the East of England National Drug Treatment Monitoring Service (NDTMS), the Screening Quality Assurance Service (SQAS) and the Disease Registration Service for the East as well as several national teams based in the East of England (outlined in this document). We are made up of a diverse range of public health specialists and practitioners and work with the local public health system and partners to improve population health outcomes. The PHE East of England geography covers a population of 6.3 million and includes the following:

County Councils: Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire, and Hertfordshire;
Unitary Authorities: Southend-on-Sea, Thurrock, Peterborough, Luton, Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Milton Keynes.

This also includes 6 Sustainability and Transformations Partnerships (STPs), 6 Local Maternity Services (LMSs) and two NHS Director of Commissioning Operations (DCO) footprints as well as the newly established Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

PHE East of England covers the whole of the East of England Speciality Training Programme² and placements are open to all registrars in the programme.

PHE East of England is led by Professor Aliko Ahmed and has deputy directors for each of the main areas of public health.

Working for Public Health England: Honorary Contracts

All registrars that work for PHE are required to hold an Honorary Contract with PHE. This is in addition to their substantive contract with the training programme's lead employer (St Helen's and Knowsley NHS Trust). The honorary contract will need to be set up in advance of your first placement with PHE which will usually be the mandatory 3 month health protection placement. Once set up, the honorary contract will remain in place for the duration of the employment contract as Specialty Registrar. The training lead for the placement (see Appendix 1) will be able to give advice on the process.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

² https://heeo.hee.nhs.uk/ph_home

What training opportunities does PHE East of England offer?

The experience offered by the different parts of the Centre was previously available through separate placements. Following the *Securing our Future* changes within PHE, East of England now offers training placements which can be customised to fit the interests and learning needs of individual registrars, as well as meeting the current and future needs of the PH system and community. Training placements within PHE East of England could cover the following areas of public health:

- Health Protection (including Field Epidemiology);
- Health and Wellbeing;
- Healthcare Public Health;
- Specialised Commissioning;
- Commissioning Screening and Immunisation services;
- Screening Quality Assurance (both cancer and non-cancer screening programmes);
- Knowledge and Intelligence (both local K&I work and exposure to national areas of work);
- Disease Registration;
- Dental Public Health;
- Health Policy and Management;
- Academic public health.

The opportunities within these areas are explored in more detail below.

With the exception of health protection, where most registrars will undertake dedicated placements, it is expected that most registrars would cover more than one of these areas in a typical placement at the Centre; using these opportunities to work across areas to gain a breadth of skills and experience is encouraged.

Health Protection and National Infections Service (NIS) Field Epidemiology Service (FES)

PHE East of England health protection service has a health protection team (HPT) that works from Thetford (Norfolk) and Harlow (Essex) offices as well as the Field Epidemiology Service (FES) based in Cambridge.

All speciality registrars are required to spend a minimum of 3 months with the health protection team in line with the Faculty of Public Health curriculum³. The HPT and the FES also offer opportunities for further health protection experience and top up or refresher training on an as-needed basis.

³ http://www.fph.org.uk/content_of_training#curriculum

FES Cambridge is able to host trainees in field epidemiology, and to arrange additional training and attachments at the PHE Regional Microbiology Laboratory at Addenbrooke's Hospital; other FES offices in England, the PHE National Infection Service Centres at Colindale London and Porton Down Wiltshire; and, at the Centre for Chemicals Radiation and Environment Didcot.

The speciality training programme also has specialist training opportunities in health protection. These can be applied for once in training and rotations are likely to involve additional time at one of the sites within the Centre.

Health protection placements will address learning outcomes in key areas 5, 6 and 1 but may also support learning in key areas 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8.

Health improvement/Health and Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing team supports local authorities and the NHS to secure the greatest gains in health and wellbeing. We work with our partners and other stakeholders such as clinical networks, the voluntary sector and other government departments to improve health and help achieve reductions in inequalities through evidence-based interventions. We promote actions to build healthy places, people and communities, making the case for prevention and early intervention. This includes integration of a range of topics and risk factors such as children and young people's health, mental health and health and justice; and smoking, alcohol and drugs, obesity and physical activity. We are increasing our focus on linking planning and health and there are opportunities to work on sustainability.

The health improvement work undertaken by the Centre is varied and can help to address learning outcomes in a number of key areas 5, 2, 3 and 4.

Healthcare public health

There are two Consultants in Healthcare Public Health based in the East of England. They work closely with NHS England to support commissioning as well as providing public health input into the quality improvement infrastructure (clinical senate, clinical networks, cancer alliance, quality surveillance groups etc.). They also support colleagues based in Local Authorities who work in healthcare public health with Clinical Commissioning Groups. There are opportunities for registrars to work with the healthcare public health team in a variety of different areas. Recent projects have included:

- A review of seven day services for the Clinical Senate;
- Reviewing and addressing variation in diabetes care processes in primary care;
- Inter-hospital transfer review for cardiology pathways;

- Influencing the implementation of risky behaviours CQUIN (Clinical Quality Indicators).

A placement with the team will address learning outcomes in key areas 7 as well as potentially in 1, 2, 3 and 4.

There are also opportunities to lead on areas of work, represent PHE and influence for healthcare public health at a senior level in a supported environment, depending on the developmental needs of the registrar.

Specialised commissioning

NHS England (NHSE) directly commissions specialised services for patients with rare and complex conditions. The services, 146 in total, are broad and varied - ranging from the management of rare genetic diseases in a handful of children, delivery of chemotherapy to thousands of patients to the commissioning of Tier 4 secure and non-secure Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). A service is classified as a specialised service depending on many considerations, including issues such as the number of individuals who require the service, the cost of provision, the number of institutions able to provide the service and the financial implications of provision.

This year the budget for these services was £16.6 billion and the cost and activity in this area has risen faster than most other parts of the NHS.

A small team of Public Health England (PHE) consultants and specialists provide healthcare public health leadership, advice and support to the national and regional (Midlands & East specialised commissioning team) commissioning of specialised services. Regionally, this covers the West Midlands, North Midlands, Central Midlands and the East of England. PHE East of England hosts a consultant in specialised commissioning who is also PHE's national representative for the mental health National Programme of Care that oversees the commissioning of specialised services in mental health.

We have three main roles that support the vision outlined in the Five Year Forward View:

- National work for NHS England, including development of evidence-based NHSE commissioning policies, and evidence reviews; These policies identify which groups are most likely to benefit from a drug or intervention or pathways and outline the clinical criteria for access;
- Public health also plays a pivotal role in NHSE's national Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) management system and has a national governance and assurance role

through membership on Programme of Care Boards (Programme of care (POC)/Clinical reference group (CRG) membership).

- At a regional level, public health teams work with NHSE colleagues on the commissioning of high-quality, evidence-based local services based on need. This can involve working with local clinicians and providers, advising on the local implementation of national schemes and using provider level data to monitor and evaluate quality/outcomes of local health programs, needs assessment, audits, and qualitative research with service users etc.

Specialised commissioning offers plenty of opportunities for registrars and the work could address learning outcomes in key areas 7 as well as 2, 3, and 4.

Recent projects that public health trainees in England have worked on include:

- New psychoactive substances in secure mental health settings;
- Assessing bids for MRET (Marginal Rate Emergency Tariff) funding;
- Stocktake of cardiology services;
- Analysing referrals to a gender identity clinic;
- Literature reviews;
- Participation in NHS England's IFR process.

Screening and Immunisation (embedded within NHS England)

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 created specific roles for NHS England and PHE to commission and provide system leadership of the national screening and immunisation programmes. NHS England commissions these services and specialist public health staff, employed by PHE, are embedded into NHS England local teams (Director of Commissioning Operations) to provide accountability and leadership for the commissioning and performance management of the programmes and to provide system leadership.

NHS England is responsible for the routine commissioning of national screening and immunisation programmes (under the terms of the section 7A agreement and the national service specifications that support it) and the collection of information on disease and coverage. In practice, embedded PHE staff work seamlessly with NHS England staff.

Working within screening and immunisation can help to address learning outcomes in key areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. There are also opportunities to lead programmes and manage teams of staff where possible, thereby contributing to some of the competencies within key area 10 with potential for addressing learning outcomes in other areas too.

Screening Quality Assurance Service (SQAS)

The 11 NHS screening programmes⁴ each have a defined set of standards for providers to meet to ensure that services are safe and effective. Quality assurance (QA) is the process of checking that these standards are met and encouraging continuous improvement.

SQAS provides advice and support to screening providers and screening commissioners (see screening and Immunisation teams above). SQAS staff monitor and analyse data, assess and support quality improvement of screening services through formal visits, advise local programme boards, advise on screening incidents and organise professional networks. SQAS is supported by professional and clinical advisors drawn from the NHS.

For more information go to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/screening-quality-assurance-service-operating-model>

Midlands and East SQAS is led by a consultant team who are each responsible for the QA of specific screening programmes across the region. They also lead on national portfolios with screening specialisms in cervical, breast, antenatal and newborn, inequalities, commissioning and incidents. Working within SQAS would suit registrars who are comfortable with remote support, working autonomously and travel.

There are opportunities for registrars to work on projects relating to the implementation of national policy and the development of QA practice. Screening QA work links to learning outcomes in key areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7.

Dental public health

There is currently no specialty registrar training programme in dental public health based in PHE East of England. However there may be opportunities for dental public health registrars from other areas to be seconded to the East of England for specific projects, with agreement from their training programme, to broaden their experience and fulfil specific educational requirements.

The dental public health team would also be able to offer secondments to public health registrars when suitable projects are identified.

⁴ **The 11 NHS Screening Programmes:**

Cancer: breast, bowel and cervical

Young person and adult: Diabetic eye screening, abdominal aortic aneurysm

Antenatal and newborn screening: Fetal anomaly screening, infectious diseases in pregnancy, sickle cell and thalassaemia, newborn blood spot screening, newborn hearing, newborn infant and physical examination

Knowledge and intelligence

The Knowledge and Intelligence Service East (KIS) is part of the Health Improvement Directorate within PHE and has a remit for supporting both national and local work. As well as the local Knowledge and Intelligence Service, Cambridge is also the base for some of PHE's national knowledge and intelligence work, including the Learning Disability Observatory, Public Health Data Science and training and workforce development. PHE's Director of Knowledge and Intelligence is also based in Cambridge and there is a range of experience on offer. Work within the K&I can help address learning outcomes in a range of key areas beyond 1 and 8; particularly key areas 2, 3, 4 and 7.

National Disease Registration (NDR)

The NDR team is part of the Health Improvement Directorate, and the Division is led by Jem Rashbass, National Director Disease Registration. It comprises of the following services:

The National Cancer Registration and Analysis Service (NCRAS)

- Provides near-real time, cost effective, comprehensive data collection and quality assurance over the entire care pathway on all patients with cancer in England;
- Delivers an academically rigorous, focused and strategically-driven analysis service for cancer data, meeting the needs of national and local stakeholders.

The National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Disease Registration Service (NCARDS) registers all suspected and confirmed congenital abnormalities and is expanding to include all rare diseases across the whole of England. NCARDS:

- Provides a resource for clinicians to support high quality clinical practice;
- Supports and empowers patients and their carers by providing information relevant to their disease or disorder;
- Provides epidemiology and monitoring of the frequency, nature, cause and outcomes of these disorders;
- Supports all research into congenital anomalies, rare diseases and precision medicine including basic science, cause, prevention, diagnostics, treatment and management;
- Informs the planning and commissioning of public health and health and social care provision;
- Provides a resource to monitor, evaluate and audit health and social care services, including the efficacy and outcomes of screening programmes.

More information is available at the [National Disease Registration website](#) and the [National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Disease Registration Service website](#).

National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

NDTMS is the main administrative system for the drug and alcohol treatment sector. It collects activity data from around 2,000 drug and alcohol services in England, which is used to monitor the progress of local treatment systems, and to assure the delivery of the treatment element of the Government's drug strategy.

What training opportunities does NDR offer?

NDR, particularly NCRAS and NCARDRS provide a wide range of training opportunities to support the public health specialist curriculum. It is recommended as a training placement later on in training, post Part B.

The training offer especially supports Key Area 1: Use of public health intelligence to survey and assess a population's health and wellbeing and Key Competence 4: Strategic leadership and collaborative working for health but can also support achievement in other competency areas. Registrars are also expected to gain a firm understanding of information governance principles as they apply to population health data. The work will be mainly national and travel to London and possibly other registry offices/NHS sites across England will be required. Placements will also contribute to Key Area 10: Integration and Application of Competences for Consultant Practice, with increased levels of individual responsibility, leadership opportunities and complex pieces of work.

What training support is there?

The Centre has a range of staff all of whom are experts in their own areas of public health and many of whom have considerable experience of training at all levels. There are a range of Clinical Supervisors and several Centre staff are also Educational Supervisors for the specialty training programme. There are usually several registrars working within the Centre at any one time and so there is an opportunity for peer support and joint learning activities.

The Centre has an active learning and development group and offers a range of local learning events including journal clubs, topic specific learning activities and organisational development.

Where would I work?

The main Centre office and most specialist functions are based in Cambridge at Victoria House in Fulbourn. The Health Protection Team is based at two sites in Thetford and Harlow respectively. Field Epidemiology Services are based at the Institute of Public Health in Cambridge.

- PHE Centre East of England, West Wing, Victoria House, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB21 5XB
- East of England HPT, Thetford Community Healthy Living Centre, Croxton Road, Thetford, IP24 1JD
- East of England HPT, Second Floor Goodman House, Station Approach, Harlow, CM20 2ET
- Field Epidemiology Services East, Institute of Public Health, University Forvie Site, Robinson Way, Cambridge, CB2 0SR

NHS England (for screening & immunisation) has offices in Cambridge, Chelmsford & Welwyn Garden City

Who are the placements aimed at?

Training placements across the Centre are currently aimed at specialty registrars on the public health training programme with occasional placements undertaken by GP registrars from the Cambridgeshire GPVTS. This reflects PHE's responsibilities towards speciality training as well as historic arrangements. Typically, apart from compulsory health protection placements, registrars have undertaken Centre placements towards the end of phase 1 or during phase 2 of training.

Securing our Future provides the opportunity for the East Centre to work towards opening up some placements more widely. These may include shorter placements for:

- Individuals seeking work experience in public health
- Post graduate students in public health related disciplines
- International work experience placements

And longer placements for:

- Foundation 2 (F2) doctors⁵
- Exchange placements with staff in similar roles in local authority or CCG settings

How do I access Centre training opportunities?

For speciality registrars placements at the PHE EoE are handled in the same way as any other placement move although all registrars are now expected to spend some time at the Centre during their training. It is expected that registrars would discuss their learning needs with their educational supervisor and, when interested in a Centre placement, with the

⁵ <http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/pages/home>

relevant Clinical Supervisors at the Centre in advance of submitting a placement move application.

The training programme placement group, which meets twice a year, will make the decision on placement moves following receipt of a placement move application.

What do registrars think about training at the Centre?

A placement with PHE is an excellent opportunity to experience the range of public health functions that are delivered or further develop skills in one particular area such as analytical skills. There are also opportunities to work on high-profile regional and national projects and with a variety of partners such as NHS England, local authorities, NHS Digital, Care Quality Commission, Health Education England, universities (including the Cambridge Institute of Public Health) and charities.

A recent registrar had a split placement between LKIS East and Healthcare public health which enabled broader learning and experience across PHE. Examples of projects that registrars have worked on across PHE include:

- Production of health information briefings on a variety of topics including cancer survival, health inequalities, child deaths;
- Creation of a national primary care measures and indicators network;
- Stakeholder consultation on the development of the Fingertips products;
- National report on an inpatient learning disability census;
- Developing a monthly winter pressures bulletin;
- Working with the East of England Clinical Senate on the readiness for 7 day services;
- Health Needs Assessments – prison and primary care;
- Improving the quality and coverage of NHS Health Checks for people with learning disabilities;
- NHS specialised commissioning service audit;
- Health improvement intervention evaluation;

Quality improvement is an integral part of the Centre's work, including its contribution to training. Placements are routinely evaluated by asking trainees to complete a standard survey at the end of the placement. Feedback from trainees is reviewed regularly and acted upon. Supervisors from across the Centre meet on a regular basis to ensure that they are up to date with changes to the programme and curriculum and to review placements and feedback from trainees.

Appendix 1 – key contacts (as at February 2018):

Health Protection	Dr Smita Kapadia smitta.kapadia@phe.gov.uk
Field Epidemiology	Dr Mark Reacher mark.reacher@phe.gov.uk Dr James Elston James.elston@phe.gov.uk
Health Improvement	Dr Barbara Paterson barbara.paterson@phe.gov.uk
Healthcare Public Health	Dr Jo Broadbent jo.broadbent@phe.gov.uk
Specialised Commissioning	Dr Anees Pari Anees.Pari@phe.gov.uk (national and local work, and IFRs)
Screening and Immunisation	Dr Shylaja Thomas shylaja.thomas@nhs.net Anglia Dr Pam Hall pamhall1@nhs.net Essex Cath Fenton cath.fenton@nhs.net Beds & Herts
Screening QA	Jane Woodland (local work) jane.woodland@phe.gov.uk Dr Sue Cohen (national work) Sue.cohen@phe.gov.uk
Knowledge and Intelligence	Dr Sian Evans (local work) sian.evans@phe.gov.uk Dr John Battersby (national work) john.battersby@phe.gov.uk
Disease Registration	Sarah Stevens sarah.stevens@phe.gov.uk or Jem Rashbass jem.rashbass@phe.gov.uk
Dental Public Health	Amanda Crosse amanda.crosse@phe.gov.uk