

THE NET

News, views & updates for those in public health education, learning and capacity building

Welcome to the first edition of the North East Teaching Public Health Network (NETPHN) newsletter.

The overall aim of NETPHN is to begin to build a whole system approach to the development of public health education across organisations and sectors, at all skill levels and, widening the reach of public health into non-traditional settings in order to improve health inequalities in a sustainable way.

NETPHN is one of nine regional networks in England funded by the Department of Health.

The NETPHN key objectives will aim to

- increase the profile of public health across the region
- embed public health in curricula
- develop and enhance public health teaching capacity and capability
- co-ordinate the sharing of existing good practice with regard to public health teaching and learning.

MAIN AREAS OF FOCUS

Partnerships and Networking

We are working closely with a vast range of organisations, individuals, and initiatives across the North East as well as linking with the other Teaching Public Health Networks (TPHNs) at a national level along with the Department of Health, in order to share best practice.

Mapping public health related education and training

Education providers in the North East have supplied us with details of their public health related courses. This has given us a baseline assessment of what is currently available. The next phase is to work with universities and across further education to provide a more detailed picture of public health related education and training within the individual establishments. We will be working with public health workforce planners and commissioners to look at their specific needs and their perspectives as to how current public health education and training provision meets current and future needs.

Children's Workforce

The North East is the national TPHN lead for Children's Workforce. We are working collaboratively with Skills for Health and the Children's Workforce Development Council in relation to the development of 'whole children's workforce collaborations'. This is in recognition of the fact that the health and well-being of children and young people is influenced by many aspects of their lives outside of 'health'.

Contd. overleaf



north east teaching public health network

DIARY DATES

North East Teaching Public Health Network
Inaugural Conference
Early 2008: Venue & Date to Be Confirmed

'Moving Forward Across the British Isles' – Shaping the
Future Collaboration Specialised Health Promotion,
2nd National Conference
Monday 17th December 2007
Venue: University of Staffordshire

The aim of this collaborative work is to explore the health improvement/public health competencies of an integrated children's workforce team with the following three objectives

- to explore the levels of health improvement competence across a given workforce
- to map skills' gaps and training needs in order to inform training providers of the range and level of training needing to be developed and
- to assist multi-agency/multidisciplinary workforce planning.

NETPHN is now on the web...

We now have our own Homepage
visit <http://www.TPHN.org.uk>

The fully developed website will be formally launched at the NETPHN Inaugural Conference in January 2008. Partners and members will be encouraged to share news, ideas, events and areas of interest on the website. We would welcome your views regarding the website's content, so feel free to contact the team with your suggestions.

Other TPHN websites

London

www.lshtm.ac.uk/hrsu/ltphn/

Peninsula (South West)

www.ptphn.org.uk

West Midlands

www.wmpho.org.uk/wmtp

Yorkshire & Humber

www.yorkshireuniversities.ac.uk/tphn.php

Useful publications

Sim, F. Teaching Public Health Networks: connecting with Shaping The Future; The Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health 2007; 127; 5: 215-218.

News

Northumbria University is planning to introduce a post graduate framework of Work Based Learning programmes to start early in 2008. The draft title is "Environmental Health Practice". This will be aimed at those currently working in Environmental Health and allied disciplines, will be work based part time and will start at PgC level and will hopefully develop into PgD and Masters level provision. They hope to include a public health strand into the programme at the earliest opportunity.

For further information contact

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To view the latest version of the **Public Health Skills and Career Framework (PHSCF)** visit

http://www.phru.nhs.uk/Pages/PHD/public_health_career_framework.htm

The **University of the West of England** is offering a series of short courses under the theme of 'healthy urban planning'. The importance of the relationship between health and planning in delivering healthy, sustainable communities is driven by how services and the built environment affect the health of communities.

It is important that built environment professionals have a good grasp of how their work impacts on public health. This includes those who plan, design, build and maintain our housing, town centres and urban environments. Similarly, public health professionals need to grasp how the planning system works in order to understand and influence the drive to create healthy environments.

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Meet the team

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www.TPHN.org.uk