**UKPHR East Midlands Public Health Practitioner Scheme**

**Additional Information for Line Managers**

The main purpose of the regulation of professionals, including public health professionals, is to protect, promote and maintain the health and safety of the public. This is achieved by ensuring professionals are competent, sufficiently experienced and adhere to agreed standards of ethical practice.

The purpose of the UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) is to provide public assurance for the provision of a competent workforce that contributes to a high quality public health service. UKPHR holds a register of public health professionals, and therefore has the means to identify, raise the profile of and communicate with the public health workforce. It is independent of all governments and sectional interests. In 2003 UKPHR was set up to regulate all multi-disciplinary public health specialists (from backgrounds other than medicine and dentistry). From April 2011 the register also started to regulate public health practitioners and more information can be found here <https://www.ukphr.org/i-want-to-apply-for-registration/practitioner/>

Practitioners cannot directly apply to UKPHR for registration and must apply through an approved scheme. The East Midlands scheme is hosted and funded by Health Education Midlands and East and has a *limited* number of places (20) available for practitioners each year. It is supported by PHE and recognised by all other UK Public Health bodies.

Demand for places on the programme is exceedingly high and we need to ensure that practitioners who embark on the process have the time, capacity and motivation to complete the process which can take up to one year.

Practitioners are expected to complete much of the work in their own time as part of their development as a professional, but there are certain times and events they need to allocate out of their employers time. This will amount to approximately 6 compulsory days per year as follows:

* Induction day
* Portfolio Development Groups (3 days)
* Faculty of Public Health Masterclasses (*optional- depending on learning needs*)
* Bi-monthly forum meetings to check progress (1 hour)

*Currently, all sessions are delivered online.*

Current practitioners have highlighted that the portfolio development process increases their understanding and ability to perform in their public health role and it is in the interest of both employing organisation and practitioner to achieve registration.

The scheme is not a training programme, and practitioners are encouraged to liaise with their employers to identify and attend any training courses which are required to fulfil the technical competency requirements. Where possible, the scheme encourages employers in the East Midlands to share such programmes, ensuring effective allocation of resources.

This covering letter is to ensure you are aware of the commitment being undertaken by your employee and to confirm that you will support the application to ensure that all practitioners who apply are able to complete the process***.***

* ***I confirm that the organization supports this application and will ensure that priority will be given to attendance at learning sets, workshops, and other development opportunities to a minimum of 6 days between September 2021 and December 2022***
* ***I confirm that work towards completing the portfolio; becoming registered; and subsequent requirements for CPD by the UKPHR will become a part of this applicant’s appraisal process and continuing professional development within the******workplace.***
* *Following successful completion, the practitioner will have the opportunity to become a UKPHR assessor to consolidate knowledge and skills.*

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| **Name:**  | **Email:**  |
| **Employing Organisation:**  |  |
| **Job Title:**  | **Date**  |
| **Practitioner’s name whose application I am supporting:**  |  |

We may contact you from time to time with updates on your practitioner’s progress and welcome any queries or contact from you, to ensure we can offer the best possible support for both employer and employee.

*Practitioners are expected to carry out at least 50% of the portfolio development work in their own time and have been made aware of this requirement but we ask that they negotiate with you to agree the time taken out of work.*

Please feel free to contact me with any queries.

**Alix Sheppard UKPHR reg PR0322**

**HEE East Midlands and East of England Scheme Coordinator,**

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