

UWE Bristol Public Health Practitioner Apprenticeship Programme/ BSc (Hons) Public Health

Professor David Evans
Professor in Health Services Research

Why choose UWE Bristol?



**Guardian
University Guide**



- A leading modern university
- Awarded TEF Gold in 2018 for Teaching Excellence
- Ranked 21st in the 2021 Guardian University Guide
- Top 20 UK University for Graduate Employability
- 2nd in England for student satisfaction, 2020
- Track record in successful apprenticeship development and delivery
- Strength and quality of the public health team
- Track record in providing high quality public health education
- Research active staff with an interest in public health practitioner professional development

UWE Apprenticeships

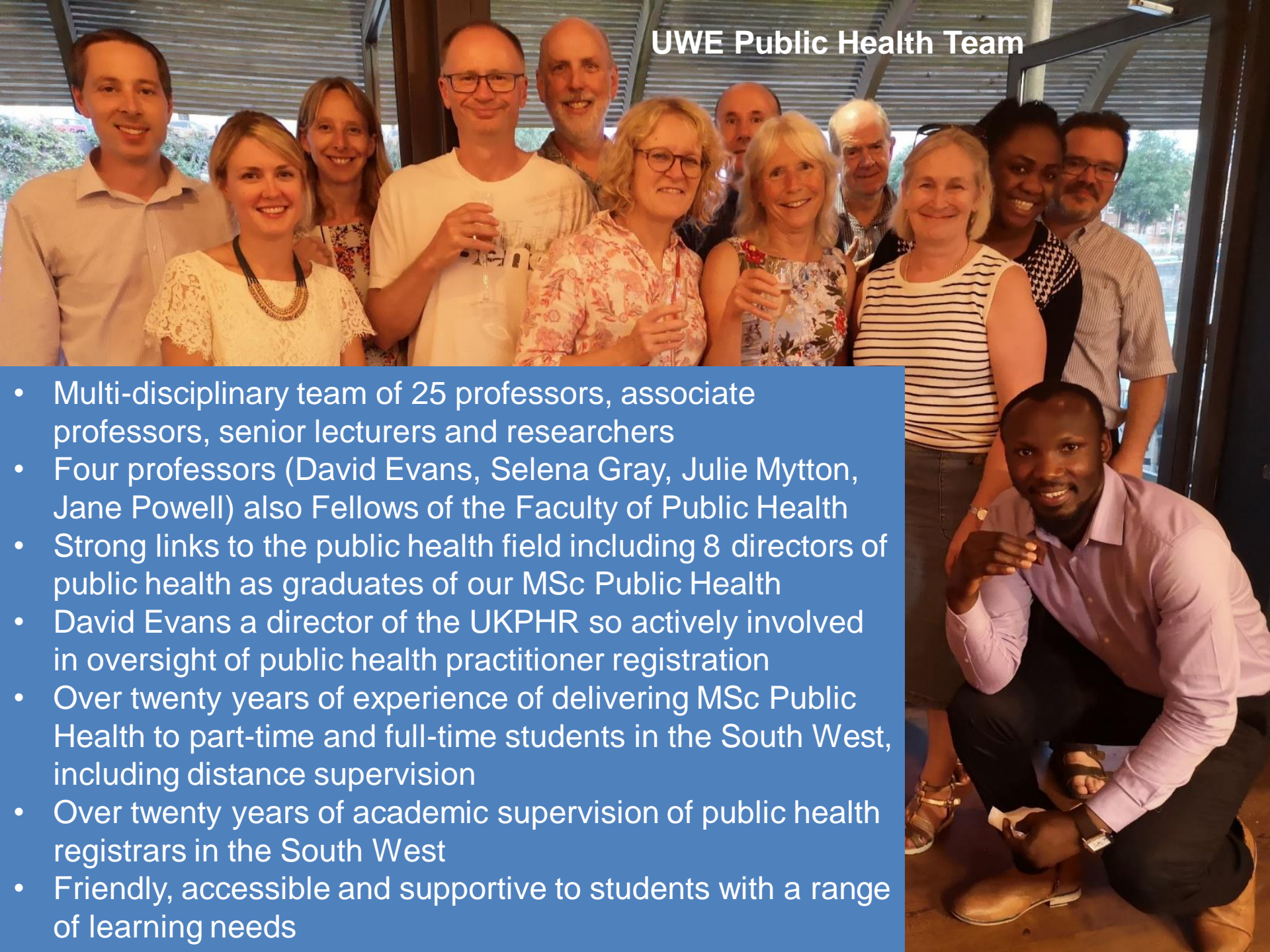
- Advanced clinical practitioner – 2 cohorts a year
- Healthcare science – 1 cohort a year
- Nursing associate – multiple cohorts and working in partnership with University Centre Weston and University Centre Somerset on delivering this programme
- Top up registered nurse cohort due to start in March 2021
- Police – 6 cohorts a year
- Occupational therapy – flying faculty contract with Solent/Hampshire. Just been appointed to deliver to the whole of the South West of England
- Assistant Practitioner and Environmental Health via our partnership with University Centre Weston
- On national dynamic purchasing systems for Public Health, Nursing, Nursing Associate, Midwifery, SCPHN, District Nursing and South for Paramedic

Apprentices bring enthusiasm, willingness and a new way of looking at things. They have a drive to be a success. They challenge people who have been here a long time, asking 'why do we do it like this? Why don't we do it this way?'

Tim Penrose, Head of Clinical Engineering for University Hospitals Bristol



UWE Public Health Team



- Multi-disciplinary team of 25 professors, associate professors, senior lecturers and researchers
- Four professors (David Evans, Selena Gray, Julie Mytton, Jane Powell) also Fellows of the Faculty of Public Health
- Strong links to the public health field including 8 directors of public health as graduates of our MSc Public Health
- David Evans a director of the UKPHR so actively involved in oversight of public health practitioner registration
- Over twenty years of experience of delivering MSc Public Health to part-time and full-time students in the South West, including distance supervision
- Over twenty years of academic supervision of public health registrars in the South West
- Friendly, accessible and supportive to students with a range of learning needs

MSc Public Health @ UWE



- MSc Public Health established in 1999
- Working closely with public health teams in the South West
- Students from a wide range of backgrounds
- Flexible part-time and full-time block teaching, including CPD
- 91-95% student satisfaction year-on-year
- 100% in employment within 6 months of graduation
- Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation accredited

Public Health Practitioner Apprenticeship @UWE

- Public Health Practitioner Apprenticeship/BSc (Hons) Public Health @UWE commencing 1 April 2021 (subject to validation)

Year 1

- Introduction to Global Public Health (45CR)
- Evidencing Work Based Learning 1 (15CR)
- Health Promotion (30CR)
- Introduction to Evidence-based Population Health (30CR)

Year 2

- Advanced Evidence-based Population Health (30CR)
- Health Protection (30CR)
- Evidencing Work Based Learning 2 (30CR)
- Public Health Policy, Politics and Economics (30CR)

Year 3

- Commissioning (30CR)
- Applied Epidemiology (30CR)
- Leadership for Public Health (30CR)
- End Point Assessment (30CR)

- Planned blended learning of block and online delivery
- Apprenticeship standard KSBs mapped against module learning outcomes

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Centre for Public Health and Wellbeing



Our approach is multidisciplinary and spans physical, health and social sciences. The aim is to impact directly on population health and wellbeing and enable ethical and reflexive contributions to public health policy and practice.

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Workforce development theme – lead Prof David Evans

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

Evaluation of the UK Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework (PHSKF): implications for international competency frameworks



Anna Bornioli^{1*}, David Evans¹ and Claire Cotter²

Abstract

Background: The value of competency frameworks for developing the public health workforce is widely acknowledged internationally. However, there is a lack of formal evaluations of such frameworks. In the UK, the Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework (PHSKF) is a key tool for the public health workforce across the UK, and this study presents the evaluation of the PHSKF 2016 version, with the aim of reflecting on implications for international public health competency frameworks.

Methods: A sequential explanatory design was employed. An online survey ($n = 298$) was completed with stakeholders across the four UK nations and different sectors. This was followed by 18 telephone interviews with stakeholders and survey completers. Quantitative results were analysed descriptively; qualitative transcripts were analysed with thematic analysis.

Results: Most respondents had used the PHSKF occasionally or rarely, and most users found it useful (87%) and easy to use (82%). Main purposes of use included team/workforce development (e.g. setting of standards) and professional development (e.g. identify professional development opportunities). Some positive experiences emerged of uses of the PHSKF to support organisational redevelopments. However, 23% of respondents had never used the framework. Areas for improvement included greater clarity on purpose and audience, the need for more support from employers and for clear career progression opportunities, and stronger links with other competency frameworks.

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Original Research

How important is public health practitioner registration to UK public health employers?



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ABSTRACT

Objectives: The objective of this study was to understand the extent to which public health practitioner registration is encouraged by UK employers through recruitment, i.e. by including registration as an essential or desirable criterion in job descriptions and person specifications.

Study design: A repeated survey was conducted on two main UK public health job websites. **Methods:** Data were collected via a repeated structured search of all public health practitioner posts advertised in two specified weeks in March and September 2018 on two main UK public health jobs websites: local government jobs and National Health Service (NHS) jobs.

Results: Fifty-six posts were identified for inclusion in the study. Only one post (2% of the total) required UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) registration or working towards registration. It was more common but still a minority (13 or 23%) of posts to require registration with any relevant register (e.g. UKPHR, Nursing and Midwifery Council or Health and Care Professions Council). Most employers demonstrated a desire for flexibility with none requiring an MSc Public Health and a majority requiring any relevant degree or equivalent experience (46 or 82%). Evidence of continuing professional development was also commonly required (34 or 61%).

Conclusion: There is currently a mismatch between UK national policy support for public health practitioner registration and the value that registered practitioners place on it and the recruitment policies of many UK public health employers.

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Introduction

Government policies in the UK emphasise the importance of developing capacity in the public health workforce to meet the public health challenges of the twenty-first century: non-communicable diseases such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease, and continuing health inequalities.¹ The public

health workforce is conventionally categorised into three groupings: two core categories of public health specialists and public health practitioners and a third category of the wider public health workforce of up to 15–20 million in the UK including teachers, police, town planners, housing officers, prison and probation officers, postal workers and engineers.² Public health specialists are the most easily defined of the

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