Assessor and Verifier Recruitment

UKPHR Regional Practitioner Schemes
(for the Midlands, North West and East of England)

Alix Sheppard UKPHR PR0322
Regional Scheme Coordinator

NHS England

Apply here- training dates can be selected

https://forms.office.com/e/ybzsZHSUmW

Health Talks Training & Consultancy

An opportunity to develop senior competencies by supporting the development of others:

Become a UKPHR Assessor

Join our growing network of senior public health professionals, developing the regional workforce to independently assess portfolios against the UKPHR's public health standards for practitioner registration.

This role is suitable for senior public health professionals who are interested in opportunities for professional development – and supporting the development of others.

Time commitment: Approx 3 hours every 3 months following training

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To apply for the role, in the East of England, The Midlands or North West or for more information please complete the application form here or email admin@healthtalks.org.uk for more information:

- *Contribute to the development of public health careers for individuals- and your own*
- *Support the professionalisation of public health practitioners*
- *UKPHR certificated training and appraisal that can contribute to your own CPD – 'trained to assess'*
- *Enhances your understanding of how the full range and scope of public health knowledge and skills are applied to the implementation of public health interventions by practitioners*
- *Broadens your appreciation of public health agendas, policies, roles, services and interventions in other areas*
- *Develops a sound grasp of retrospective portfolio building which could help with own future portfolio development*

Assessor Profile



Name: Melissa Higgins

Job: Environmental Health Practitioner

Why did you apply to become an assessor?

I completed the UKPHR registration process myself and was overwhelmed by the support and encouragement provided to help me achieve my registration. I wanted to give back to the scheme by becoming an assessor.

What is interesting about the role?

I enjoy reading about the projects other practitioners work on in their areas. There's a wide variety of work within public health and I find it useful to keep up-to-date with what's going on in public health through reading practitioner's work.

Are there any challenges?

Finding the time to do our demanding roles and be an assessor!

Would you recommend the role to others and why?

Yes. Public Health is often politically overlooked, so we should support each other to further each other's practices and the practice of public health itself.

How does it feel when a practitioner makes it to the end of the portfolio?!

A lot of work goes into completing, assessing, and verifying every portfolio, so there's a huge sense of accomplishment and achievement when a portfolio is completed.

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Assessor Focus

Name: Chimeme Egbutah

Job: Public Health Service Manager (Inequalities in Health) Luton BC



Why did you apply to become an assessor?

I wanted an opportunity to give back. I had a really good journey [to becoming registered] and felt like I had learnt a lot through the process. I also had a lot of support so I wanted to be able to support the development of others.

What is interesting about the role?

The range of subjects you get to read about AND the extra learning in areas that you may not know so much about. Seeing how people have executed a project and demonstrating their competence in doing so. I have had the opportunity of assessing five practitioners so far (works out to be one a year so far).

I've had one practitioner who I felt should really be going for consultant status and was really pleased I could feed that back in my final comments after they have submitted. Their roles have been varied but all have had really interesting commentaries. I've never been bored reading one!

What are the challenges with the assessor role?

Mainly finding the time to read the commentaries that the practitioner has worked so hard to write.

Would you recommend the role to others and why?

Yes, if you like to support people to grow their skills and competencies and see them flourish this is definitely a role you should take up. I find it very rewarding.

How does it feel when a practitioner makes it to the end of the portfolio?!

Brilliant! I ALWAYS think of my own journey. At the time, writing the first commentary felt really difficult. I am so pleased when I hear back that they have made it. Although, I haven't had anyone who has not been accepted yet – I think it is because of the great support they receive from Alix and her team.

An opportunity to develop senior competencies by supporting the development of others:

Become a UKPHR Verifier

This role will quality assure the assessment process and is suitable for Consultants, Registrars (St4+) and retired Consultants who still maintain their CPD.

Time commitment: Approx 2 hours every 4 months with attendance at Panel meetings quarterly

- *Contribute to the development of public health careers for individuals- and your own*
- *Support the professionalisation of public health practitioners*
- *UKPHR certificated training and appraisal that can contribute to your own CPD*
- *Enhances your understanding of how the full range and scope of public health knowledge and skills are applied to the implementation of public health interventions by practitioners*
- *Broadens your appreciation of public health agendas, policies, roles, services and interventions in other areas*
- *Develops a sound grasp of retrospective portfolio building which could help with own future portfolio development*

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Verifier testimonials

Maggie Pacini, Consultant in Public Health, Essex CC

How does the verifier role and training contribute to your own CPD/professional skills?
Even as an experienced consultant, I find that there is always something to learn working with and helping others. This really helps me as a line manager and someone who offers professional support to colleagues, to understand the practitioner standards and pitch my support appropriately.

How do you think the assessor role (for st3+) and verifier role (st4+) might support the professional development of registrars?

The roles are great evidence for expected StR standards such as 4.10 Guide, support and develop staff and junior colleagues.
It is also good preparations for when, as consultant, they will be managing staff as they will have a good understanding of what independent practitioner practice looks like.
I have been so used to supervising registrars preparing for consultant practice that it has been vital to understand the expectations to which practitioners deliver.

What do you enjoy about the Verifier role?

“I enjoy seeing the range of work practitioners are doing and links with other colleagues”

“Supporting practitioners to get registered”

“Relatively straightforward, standardised process- not too time consuming”

“Being able to support the scheme in a way which fits into my day job”

“A task with a clear beginning and end. Keeping in touch with practice across the region. Supporting development of a workforce which should be registered”

The portfolio process for practitioners

Join the scheme, plan the portfolio and develop Commentary 1 with full blended support programme from the scheme (approx. 4-5 months)

Submit each commentary approx. 3-4 months apart. The assessor will review each commentary and may request some clarifications. Upload final documents and the assessor completes the Overview. The portfolio is now ready for verification (which can take up to 1 month after completion)

Once all standards have been assessed and accepted, references and testimonials will be provided for the assessor to review. Assessor completes final overview section.

The portfolio is now passed to a verifier who quality assures the assessment process. They will check the log and sample some standards.

The Verification Panel. These are held quarterly, and our verifiers meet as a panel and present each portfolio for discussion. They then recommend for UKPHR registration..**The practitioner now applies to UKPHR for registration. Approx time taken 12-18 months**

Key Resources

How we support your roles

UKPHR Guidance document This is the rulebook for all processes relating to UKPHR practitioner registration. *Use this to refresh your memory on the terminology associated with registration- and the processes involved*

Knowledge Hub A platform where we share useful learning resources. Join here You will find CPD opportunities, and we regularly share learning from each region.

Forum Meetings: Held every 2 months, this is your opportunity to link with the wider assessor/verifier networks from across the three regions. We discuss learning and any queries relating to portfolios. Brief notes are added to Khub if you cannot attend- but it is better to attend in person when you can!

Refresh Training: You need to attend every 2 years, this half day session is also ideal if you have had a break from the role

Thank you!

For your time and commitment to developing the public health workforce.

Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions about these roles

alix@healthtalks.org.uk Scheme Coordinator Alix Sheppard
UKPHR PR0322



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