

# Thames Valley 2025

## Public Health Practitioner Registration Scheme





# Introduction to the team



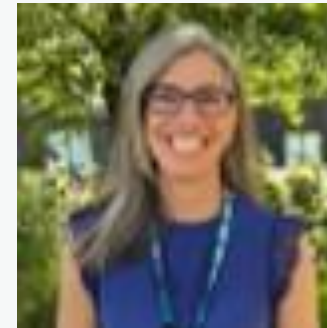
Joanne McEwan  
Scheme Co-ordinator



Lauren Kirk  
Admin support



Sally Cray  
Facilitator



Branwen Thomas  
Workforce Lead

# Outline for today's session

- Role of UKPHR
- How do I become a registered practitioner?
- Introducing the Thames Valley Public Health Practitioner Scheme
- A practitioner's perspective
- Benefits of joining the scheme
- How to apply
- Q & A



## About You

**What geographical area do you work in?**

Please answer the poll

# What is registration?



- Registration provides public protection by ensuring that only competent public health professionals are registered, and that high standards of practice are maintained (safe pair of hands).
- UKPHR (United Kingdom Public Health Register) is the regulatory body for PH Practitioners





You could be working within any one of the four domains of Public Health

1. Health Improvement
2. Healthcare Public Health
3. Academic Public Health
4. Health Protection

tion Specialist Domestic Violence Liaison Nurse Screening & In  
er Senior Health Promotion Specialist Public Health Project Manager  
n Lead Head of Information and Intelligence Project  
JHS Health Checks Specialist Health Improvement Practitioner He  
er Research Fellow Pressure Garment Study He  
es Manager Public Health Intelligence PhD Researcher Health Inequalities  
ie Manager Oral Health Promoter Public Health Develop  
Public Health Project Manager Specialist Health Improvement Practitioner He  
nt Research Fellow Health Checks Service Manager Princip  
er Community Health Trainer Coordinator TB Clinical Research Nurse Health  
er Strategy and Community Coordination Officer PH Immunisa  
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Officer Specialist for Children and Young People Head of Service Senior Env  
Health Practitioner Sexual Health Promotion Team Leader Clinica  
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h Intelligence Analyst Senior Public Health Manager Senior Health Pro  
ramme Manager Early Years Coordinator Strategic Commissioner for Sexual  
ty Assistant Programme Officer Commissioning Head  
ramme Officer ad (Mental Health) Public Health Regional Dev  
Project Lead Practitioner Health Pro  
Lead Health Checks Programme Manager Public Health Advisor Public He  
alth Partnerships and Commissioning Head Scientific  
it Principal Dental Therapist Health Development Officer Team Le  
rch Officer Oral Health Improvement Practitioner Childhood Obesity Progr  
anager Senior Public Health Practitioner Commissioning Pub  
Health Development Commissioner Stop Smokin  
th Development Officer Health Improvement Practitioner Health and Physical A  
er Health and Wellbeing Practitioner Oral Health Improvement Co-ordinator Heal  
otion Specialist Senior Health Promotion Specialist Nutri  
ol Policy Manager Head of Commission Support Health and Social Care  
e Analyst Well-being and Partnership Lead Project Co-ord  
am Lead Trainer Public Health Resource & Campaigns Officer Suic  
Health Officer Health Improvement Manager Road Safety Manager Lecturer F  
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Development Worker Tobacco Control Lead Lead Trainer  
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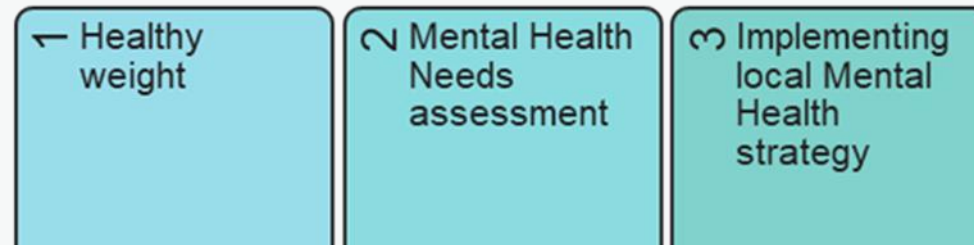


# What is required?



- You will need to produce a portfolio of work
- This will contain a write up of 3 distinct pieces of work that we call commentaries that together address all 34 of the UKPHR standards for registration.

For example.



- Backed up by evidence to show that you have sufficient knowledge, understanding and application
- Along with your CV and Job description, a final reference and testimonial
- The portfolio is assessed, verified and if meets the UKPHR requirements, the practitioner is recommended to UKPHR for registration.



# Introducing the standards

## 34 standards spread over 8 areas of practice

1. Practising professionally, ethically and legally

2. Using public health information

3. Assessing the evidence for public health interventions and services

4. Protecting the public from health risks

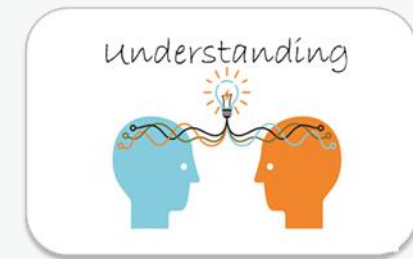
5. Implementing public health policy and strategy

6. Collaborating across organisations and boundaries

7. Planning, implementing and evaluating public health programmes and projects

8. Communicating with others to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities

For every standard the practitioner must demonstrate 3 elements:



*E.g. standard 7.4 Evaluate a Public Health intervention, reporting on its effect and making suggestions for improvement.*



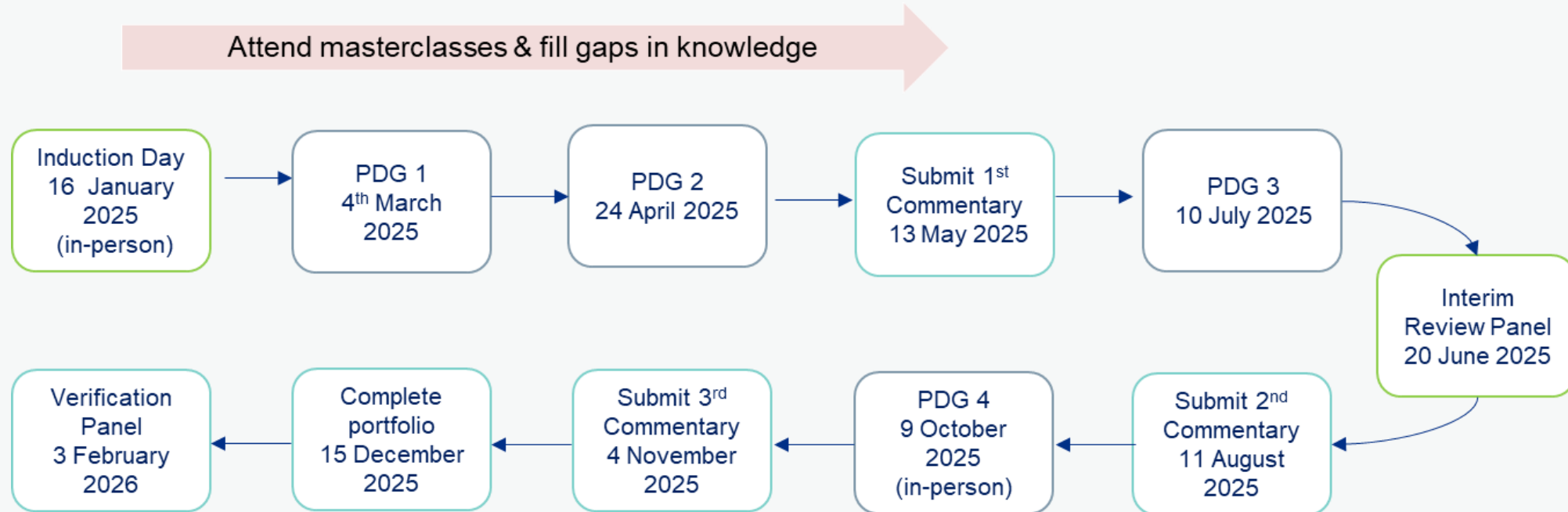
# Introducing the Thames Valley Scheme

- The Thames Valley scheme has been running for over 10 years in its current format
- It is not a training programme, but it does facilitate and support practitioners who meet the entry criteria in filling gaps in their knowledge and experience so that they can prepare a portfolio of evidence to achieve registration with the UKPHR.
- The Thames Valley scheme has a strong reputation for providing a high level of support for practitioners and has been commended for the high quality of the work submitted within portfolios.
- It is an 11 Month timeline from induction to completion of portfolio that includes:
  - Application and interview process
  - Induction day
  - 4 portfolio development group days
  - Feedback on draft work prior to submission
  - Mentor support
  - Mid-year review
  - Assessment of submitted work

Once your portfolio is complete it goes through a process of verification.

Successful practitioners are then able to apply for registration with the UKPHR.

# An overview of the Scheme



## Expectations of you:

- Fill gaps in knowledge and/or application
- Complete **3** written pieces of work (commentaries) to demonstrate knowledge, understanding & application of all 34 standards
- Participate in all aspects of the programme including masterclasses, evaluation and ongoing support of the scheme
- Meet scheme deadlines and submit work using the e portfolio platform

# The support you can expect during the scheme

- **Engagement in a portfolio development group**

Protected time with your peers in a safe and constructive environment

- ✓ To help guide you through the portfolio requirements
- ✓ To access support and challenge from peers in different Public Health roles
- ✓ To explore how you will fill gaps in knowledge and experience
- ✓ To motivate you to keep yourself on track and complete your portfolio



- **Feedback on your draft work prior to submission**

- **An interim review to support you with your progress**

- **Access to a trained mentor**

- **Engagement with your line manager prior to submission of your written work**





# Practitioner perspective: Natalie Sylvester, Wokingham Borough Council



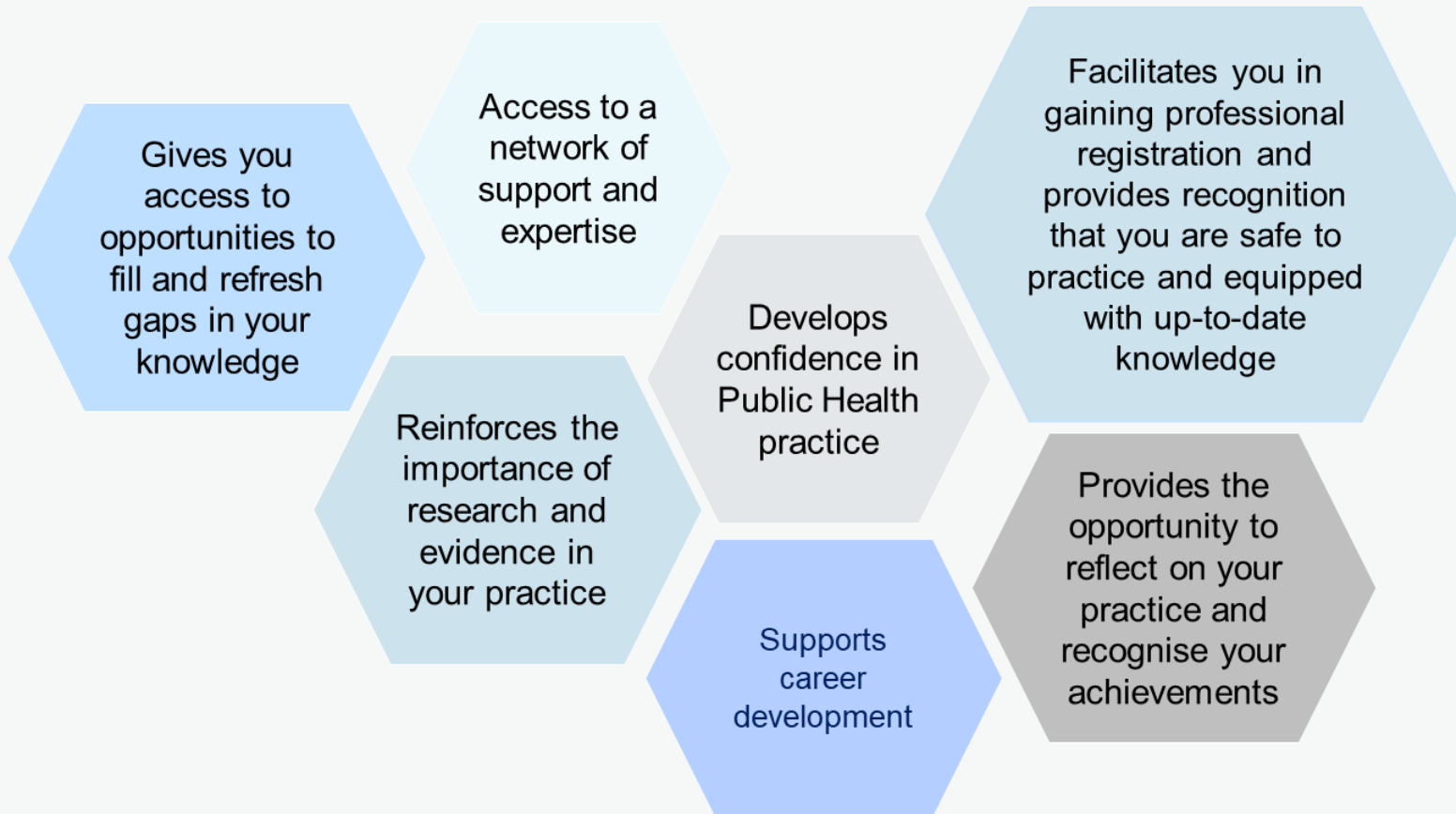
Improved my confidence  
in my ability to work in  
public health

Meeting new people  
on the scheme and  
support network

Very rewarding and the  
reflective element really made  
me appreciate what I had done  
in the past and processes to  
use in my current work

Portfolio  
Development Groups

# Benefits of joining the scheme



*“The scheme enabled me to reflect on my work thus far and to better understand my practice through a professional framework, and it has helped me to look forward and improve the quality and consistency of my current and upcoming projects.  
A revealing and rewarding journey”*

*2023Practitioner*

# What happens at the end of the scheme?

- Your final portfolio will be reviewed by a verifier and a verification panel will determine if you have met the criteria for registration
- Successful candidates will be recommended to UKPHR
- You will apply to go on the UKPHR register
  - Annual fee payable- £121 (You can claim tax relief on professional fees)
- Revalidation is every five years: registered practitioners are expected to maintain their CPD to fulfil revalidation (75 hours over 5 years)
- But most of all, a great achievement!



# Criteria for joining the Thames Valley Scheme

- Employment in Thames Valley
- Minimum of 2 years' public health experience, in an NHS agenda for change band 5 – 7 post (or equivalent role). Working autonomously.
- Demonstration of a broad range of relevant experience, with any gaps capable of being met within 6 months of starting on the scheme
- Commitment to completing a portfolio by 17 December 2025, with the expectation that applicants will dedicate a significant amount of personal time along with up to 8 days of work time
- Commitment from your line manager to support you through the process
- To read and understand the UKPHR Public Health Practitioner Guidance for Applicants, Assessors and Verifiers Document, prior to submitting an application



# The Application Process

## Complete Application form

- Section A - Your details
- Section B - Supporting information
- Section C –Signed Declarations  
Include Your CV (including qualifications and record of CPD)

## Complete Equality Diversity & Inclusion form

## Complete Baseline Self- Assessment

Application deadline:  
13<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
12pm

Interviews for  
Shortlisted Candidates:  
4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

<https://www.oxsph.org/applications-for-2025-scheme/>

# The baseline self-assessment

- An opportunity to start to get familiar with the standards and check whether you are ready to apply
- Be honest in your self assessment for each standard. You are expected to have some gaps.
- Start by identifying 3 pieces of work that together could allow you to address all of the standards. For example:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Working on chapters of the JSNA</li><li>2. Carrying out a health-needs assessment</li><li>3. Developing a strategy for obesity prevention</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Warm homes prevention programme</li><li>2. Improving vaccination rates during COVID</li><li>3. Project to Increase physical activity for older people</li></ol>
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# The baseline self-assessment

- Knowledge and application are assessed separately

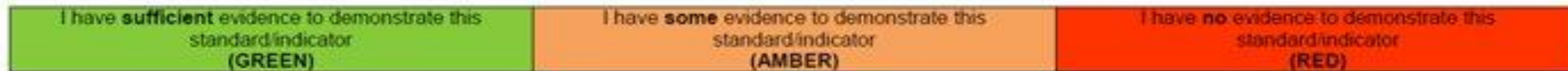
Area 1: Practising professionally, ethically and legally		RAG Rating			Commentary Claiming 1/2/3	Example of evidence of Knowledge e.g course/module	Example of evidence of application e.g a piece of work with corroborative evidence
		G	A	R			
1.1	Comply with statutory legislation and practice requirements in your area of work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

- In the Knowledge column identify the source of your underpinning knowledge for each standard. If you are unable to identify a suitable source of Knowledge, note this.
- In the Application column note which of the three pieces of work you could use to demonstrate each standard and specify a piece of evidence that could corroborate what you did. If you are unable a suitable example/ piece of evidence, note this.
- When you have filled in both the Knowledge and Application sections, rag rate each standard separately.

I have <b>sufficient</b> evidence to demonstrate this standard <b>(GREEN)</b>	I have <b>some</b> evidence to demonstrate this standard <b>(AMBER)</b>	I have <b>no</b> evidence to demonstrate this standard <b>(RED)</b>
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- If your RAG rating is Red this highlights a development opportunity: Highlight any ideas you have for addressing your gaps in the section at the end of the baseline assessment

# Baseline Self-assessment



**Step 2: Complete the full self -assessment using this table**

Area 1: Practising professionally, ethically and legally		RAG Rating			Commentary Claiming 1/2/3	Example of evidence of Knowledge e.g course/module	Example of evidence of application e.g a piece of work with corroborative evidence
		G	A	R			
1.1	Comply with statutory legislation and practice requirements in your area of work.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
1.2	Use an ethical approach in your area of work, identifying ethical dilemmas or issues arising and how you address them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
1.4	Act in ways that promote equality and diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
1.3	Act in ways that promote equality and diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
1.4	Act in ways that value people as individuals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

# Example of a section of the Self-assessment

Area 1: Practising professionally, ethically and legally		RAG Rating			Commentary Claiming 1/2/3	Example of evidence of Knowledge e.g course/module	Example of evidence of application e.g a piece of work with corroborative evidence
		G	A	R			
1.1	Comply with statutory legislation and practice requirements in your area of work.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commentary 1	FPH Masterclass in ethics (2024)	Commentary 1 – Child health project  Ev -Specification I wrote with section on need for an ethical approach
1.2	Use an ethical approach in your area of work, identifying ethical dilemmas or issues arising and how you address them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commentary 2	In house equality and diversity training (2022)	Commentary 2 – Healthy weight project  Not sure what evidence to use for this standard.
1.4	Act in ways that promote equality and diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsure	Gap see page 14	Gap as I work strategically not sure how to demonstrate this standard. See page 14.

Using the baseline self-assessment form above, please summarise below any gaps you have identified & your suggested plan to address them:		
Standard that you have identified a gap in knowledge and/or application	Proposed activity to address gap (i.e. training, shadowing, etc.)	Target completion date
1.4	In relation to application: Discuss opportunities to address this standard with my line manager by getting involved with a suitable piece of work In relation to Knowledge: Use masterclass or on line course to top up learning	April 2025





**Let's have a go at filling the self-assessment**



# Important dates

- Deadline for submitting your application: 13 November 2024, 12:00 noon
- Informed of shortlisting by 21 November
- Interviews scheduled for 4 December (1 hour)
- Notified of outcome of interview 6 December
- Induction meeting with practitioners and line managers 7 January 2025, 14:00 – 15:00
- Induction day 16 January 2025 (in person, Oxford)

You are expected to attend all key programme dates, so check page 2&3 of the pre application information for further information

# Reflections: Should I apply?

## Be clear about your motivation for doing this

- Recognise your skills and experience?
- Help progress your career?
- Help you move into a different area of Public Health?
- Help you apply for a more senior role?
- Increase your employability?
- Enable you to gain some professional development?
- Other?

## Be honest with yourself about the commitment required

- Are you able to commit to all the dates set out in the application form?
- Are you prepared to **invest personal time** on a regular basis in addition to the protected development time?
- How will you juggle the requirements with other priorities?



# Q & A





*'I've grown in confidence and it has validated the work I am involved in and helped me see how what I do benefits the population. I've learnt to be more explicit in expressing what I do and reflect on the impact of my work'*

*Practitioner 2021 Scheme*

*'Completing the practitioner scheme has given me the tools and skills to quality assure myself.'*

*Practitioner 2023 Scheme*

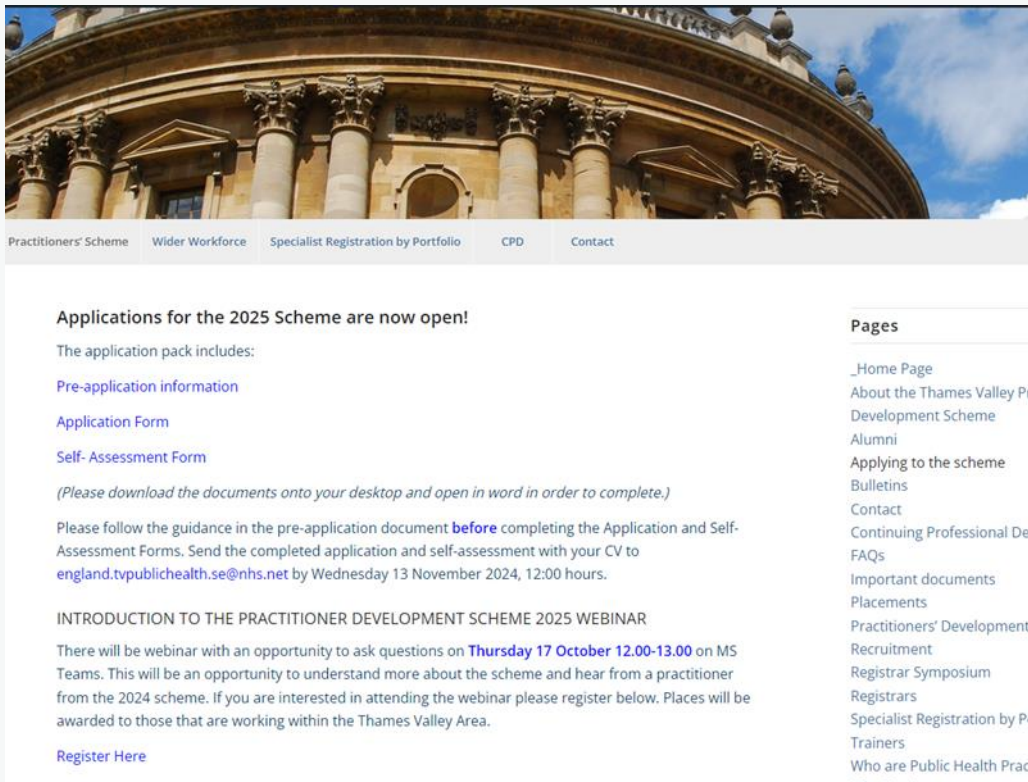
*'The Practitioner Scheme has been a challenging but rewarding process that has helped me develop further as a public health professional. It has also been a great experience''*

*Practitioner 2022 Scheme*

Send your completed application (along with your CV)  
to [england.tvpublichealth.se@nhs.net](mailto:england.tvpublichealth.se@nhs.net)  
by 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 12pm



# Applications are now open



To contact the team:

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(Scheme Coordinator) [joanne.mcewan5@nhs.net](mailto:joanne.mcewan5@nhs.net)

Lauren Kirk  
(Admin Support) [lauren.kirk4@nhs.net](mailto:lauren.kirk4@nhs.net)

<https://www.oxsph.org/applications-for-2025-scheme>