

**Summary**

UK Public Health Register

Meeting of the Board held on 13 May 2008 at the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health,  
Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ

PRESENT: Jim McEwen (Chair)  
Brendan Yates  
Jeremy Hawker  
Sara Gibbs  
Ewen MacLeod  
Neil Roberts  
Paul Scourfield  
Fiona Harris  
Bernadine O'Sullivan  
Fiona Sim  
Brenda Poulton  
Jonathan Sexton  
Hilde Rapp  
Marilena Korkodilos (Observer)  
David Pattison (Observer)  
Mala Rao (Observer)  
Sarah North (Secretary)  
Philip Baldwin (Observer)  
Zoe Clark (Observer)

Jim McEwen welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Paul Robinson who chaired the March meeting. He introduced Brenda Poulton who will today represent the NMC as Marianne Cowpe cannot attend the meeting today; also Marilena Korkodilos who will be representing the English Department of Health at future UKPHR Board meetings. Mala Rao who has been the representative for a number of years on this Board is leaving to take post in India. Chris Tudor Smith, the Department of Health representative for Wales is also leaving as representative and this position will be filled by Peter Farley, who previously sat on this Board. David Pattison, the representative for the Scottish Government is also moving to another post; he will advise of his replacement, once decided.

Jim McEwen, and the Board paid very special thanks to Mala Rao for her help with the register and the support she has given to the register since its inception and all wished her well for her new post in India.

Apologies received from Lillian Somerville, Paul Robinson, George Morris, Marianne Cowpe, Phil Mackie, Naresh Chada, David Puce, Graham Rushbrook, Chris Tudor Smith, Steve George and David Williams.

Standing orders have been re-drafted and the Board saw the final draft. Tim Winn from Mills and Reeve, the UKPHR solicitors will be speaking to Jim McEwen to finalise the new constitution and it is anticipated that this will be brought to the September meeting. Normally appointment and re-appointment of members for the UKPHR Board would be at this Board meeting but due to changes in the constitution the Board agreed that this will now take place at the September meeting.

Jeremy Hawker advised that he attended the FPH Practitioner Committee representing the UKPHR and brought the FPH up to date on the work being done by the register. The streams of work being carried by the register and the FPH are now clearly defined, and it is essential that the organisations work together on issues such as revalidation. Although the register is concerned with regulation, the FPH with standards, the PHSCF is being used for guidance, as this relates to both organisations. This document although NHS orientated, has been successfully tested with the Royal Town Planning Institute to support its use outside NHS parameters.

Fiona Sim represented the register at the FPH Board meeting. Reference was made to the respective practitioner projects from both organisations and the need for collaboration was emphasised and agreed.

The register will mark five years of operation with a small informal 'celebration' at the FPH conference in June. Members of the Board and associated committees are invited together with the register assessors and other related individuals who have worked with the register over the past five years. This will be fully reported in the next UKPHR bulletin. A meeting for registrants will be held at the end of this year.

Jim McEwen has drafted a five-year strategic plan that has been to the Executive Committee, and the Board was asked to comment. This will be taken forward to the next meeting.

The Board considered the time for application for the defined specialist arm of the UKPHR. The Board agreed that the time for submission for the defined specialist applications will be reviewed in five years.

A type of registration for practitioners similar to provisional registration previously given to DsPH before they applied for 'full' registration through portfolio submission, was discussed at the Executive Committee. This will not be competency based registration, but applicants will be asked to sign up to an ethical framework, a system of CPD and it will be a system to ensure that those who are found to be unfit to practise will be removed from the register or have appropriate restrictions imposed on their practice. This registration will be focussed on offering a degree of public protection, and move forward the professionalising of the public health workforce, especially for those who are not involved in any regulatory system. This will be discussed further.

The Board has agreed 'in principle' registration for those specialist trainees on the FPH training programme. This will be further discussed at the FPH conference in June, and brought back to the Board with the final proposal.

The draft regulation standards for Practitioners have now been completed and the first draft pilot is underway. There are more than ten initial pilots being completed; they are not all NHS orientated, and cover all four UK countries. There will be a review after this initial pilot to discuss and possibly refine the standards before the wider pilot in the autumn. There was a meeting of the regulator forum at the end of March and a further meeting will be held in September.

The FPH is currently considering a move to college status and has recently sent a consultation to its members. The initial findings are in favour of this change which will take around one year to fully implement, and the FPH has advised that the cost will not be passed on to the members through subscriptions. The proposal is also supported by

the Parent Royal Colleges of Physicians (Glasgow, Edinburgh, London) and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges. The UKPHR confirmed support for the change.

The Annual Report for the UKPHR is nearing completion and this will be released in the summer.

The next Board meeting will not be until September and during the summer period any issues that arise will be taken to the Executive Committee; the Executive Committee will then email the Board if necessary.

There is no change to the risk management.

The dates of the next two Board meetings for 2008 are 9 September and 11 November.