Thames Valley Practitioner development programme

NHS England

Evaluation 2021 progress

An external evaluation of the Thames Valley 2021 scheme took place in April 2022, to gather insights from a range of stakeholders to inform the development of future schemes. One of the recommendations of the evaluation was to respond to recipients once they had provided feedback. The scheme has recognised that whilst they may act on comments and feedback, the scheme is not proactive in relaying progress to recipients. This table aims to do this more effectively.

You said (feedback from participants)	We did (scheme response)
Provide information and resources online Develop an online repository of all information and resources provided to practitioners and supporters. This would replace (or be in addition to) separately emailed resources.	From 2022, all practitioners are given access to a SharePoint folder which includes access to resources specific to their portfolio development. Assessors and mentors are also given access to a SharePoint site which hosts relevant resources. The School of Public Health's website provides links to all UKPHR relevant guidance and documentation.
Build awareness and understanding about the scheme: promote scheme to employers, other health professionals for prospective applicants and mentors, assessors and verifiers	This is a work in progress, to date: • 19 April 2023: overview of workforce development and the practitioner scheme at the Berkshire West Development Day • 5 July 2023: webinar to promote the scheme with UKHSA South East team

	• Local Authority Workforce Leads are now embedded in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire East and Berkshire West who are an additional point of contact to promote the scheme amongst their team and wider stakeholders.
Engage and involve line managers and employers in supporting practitioners	Quarterly meetings are now held with line managers. At these meetings we explore how line managers can support practitioners to develop their portfolio as well as clarify timelines for the scheme.
Eligibility for the scheme: Consider eligibility for the scheme and possible trade-offs involved in expanding this (including the impact on support provision). Once agreed, build understanding about who the scheme is targeted at and about the wider workforce offer for people working outside public health who have an important role to play in the health of the public.	The Thames Valley scheme is primarily targeted at those working in public health as it has taken a few years to build up adequate mentor, assessor and verifier capacity. The Scheme piloted a Trainee Practitioner role from 2021-23 where 4 individuals employed by a local authority public health team worked towards practitioner registration by completing projects that met the UKPHR practitioner standards whilst undertaking public health education and training including certain Master of Public Health modules. This pilot will now be extended across the region from September 2023. The Thames Valley scheme has an ambition to be able to meet the needs of the wider workforce and will look to understand how best to do this with colleagues across the School of Public Health South East during the Spring of 2024.
Improving the scheme at national level.	Thames Valley scheme updates and provides feedback to UKPHR Practitioner Coordinator meetings every other month. The Scheme Co-ordinator at the School of Public Health for Kent,

Feeding back to the UKPHR to improve the scheme's promotion and delivery, including about the e-portfolio, national profile of the scheme, and opportunities to connect with other practitioners across the UK.	Surrey, Sussex is a member of Practitioner Registration Group where the Thames Valley scheme can also raise issues.
What is expected write up time required to complete a portfolio? This will be useful for applicants and line managers.	A survey went out to practitioners to ask them about the write up time. Hours have been stated as an average and will be added to information and promotion of the scheme – i.e., website, application form