

# Public Health Practitioner Registration Scheme 2026

Online application pack and guidance



# Public Health Practitioner Registration Scheme 2026 Guidance

**This document provides an overview of the eligibility criteria, what you will need to include in your online application and what support you need from your employing organisation. It is important you read this guidance fully before submitting your application online.**

## Pre-Application Information

The South East Practitioner Development Scheme supports public health practitioners working in the South East to achieve practitioner registration with the UK Public Health Register (UKPHR).

Registration is achieved by:

- Successful application and interview to a scheme
- Writing a retrospective portfolio which comprises of 3 discrete pieces of work in the field of public health. Each piece of work, (referred to as 'commentary' by UKPHR), demonstrates an individual's knowledge and application of public health, mapped to the 34 UKPHR practitioner standards.
- Evidence of knowledge (for example a certificate of learning) and application (for example a written report) must be submitted for each UKPHR standard.
- Each commentary is submitted according to the scheme's deadlines which is assessed by a UKPHR trained assessor.
- There is an expectation that a substantial amount of personal time is devoted to writing the portfolio. Practitioners on average spend from 5 - 15 hours a week for the duration of the programme working on their portfolio which may increase at the time of the commentary submission dates.
- The final portfolio is checked by a trained UKPHR verifier which is discussed at a panel. Following successful verification, the panel recommends a practitioner for registration to the regulatory body UKPHR.
- It is a practitioner's responsibility to apply to UKPHR for practitioner registration. This includes an annual registration fee. The [UKPHR website](#) provides details of the fees.

## Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be able to demonstrate:

- Employment within the South East which includes:
  - **Thames Valley** (Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire)
  - **Wessex** (Hampshire and the Isle of Wight)
  - **Kent, Surrey & Sussex** (including Medway and Brighton and Hove)
- Minimum of 2 years' public health experience, usually having occupied a public health practitioner post at NHS Agenda for Change band 5 - 7 or equivalent in other sectors operating at Level 5. See the [Health Career Level Framework](#) at Skills for Health, for more information on skills levels.
- Self-assessment against the [Public Health Practitioner Standards](#). Applicants must be able to demonstrate (through completing the self-assessment form) a breadth of public health practice with relevant experience. It is not unusual for practitioners to have some minor gaps, which would not impact being able to complete a portfolio within the specified timescale. Any gaps must be addressed within six months of being accepted on the scheme or there is a risk of removal from the scheme.
- A signed commitment to completing a portfolio against the Public Health Practitioner Standards for Registration in the timescale specified and full participation in all elements of the scheme. This must be a genuine commitment to **completing a portfolio by 13 September 2027, 12:00pm**.
- A signed commitment from the line manager confirming they will support the applicant throughout the programme. This includes allowing up to 8 days to undertake the programme (induction, masterclasses, portfolio development groups and an interim review) in addition to any requirements for time for portfolio development, gathering evidence and relevant learning to address gaps. Line Managers are asked to:
  - Support their practitioner to include this development into their Personal Development Plans.
  - Assess eligibility of the practitioner by working together to complete the self-assessment form
  - Support the practitioner to meet gaps, identify work and evidence for their portfolio.
  - Discuss progress with the programme and portfolio at one-to-one meetings.
  - Attend update and progress meetings with the School of Public Health as required.
- In submitting an application to the Scheme, applicants will have read and fully understood the [UKPHR-Practitioner-Guidance-for-Applicants-Assessors-Verifiers-March-2025.pdf](#)



## Key Programme Dates – Mandatory

You are not eligible to apply to the scheme if you cannot attend the following dates:

### Recruitment Dates

- Deadline for submission of application: **11 June 2026, 12:00pm**
- You will be informed if you have been shortlisted for an interview by: **29 June 2026**
- Interviews will take place on:
  - Thames Valley: **14 July 2026**
  - Wessex: **15 July 2026**
  - Kent Surrey Sussex: **16 July 2026**

### Scheme Dates

	<b>Kent Surrey Sussex</b>	<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>Wessex</b>
<b>Induction Day (in-person)</b>	06 October 2026 10:00 - 15:00	01 October 2026 10:00 - 15:00	08 October 2026 10:00 - 15:00
<b>Portfolio Development Group 1 (online)</b>	17 November 2026 09:30 - 15.30	12 November 2026 09:30 - 15.30	18 & 19 November 2026 09:30 - 15:30
<b>Portfolio Development Group 2 (online)</b>	12 January 2027 09:30 - 15:30	13 January 2027 09:30 - 15.30	20 & 21 January 2027 09:30 - 15:30
<b>Portfolio Development Group 3 (online)</b>	23rd March 2027 09:30 - 15:30	23 March 2027 09:30 - 15.30	24 & 25 March 2027 09:30 - 15:30
<b>Portfolio Development Group 4 (in-person)</b>	22 June 2027 09:30 - 15:00	24 June 2027 09:30 - 15:00	30 June 2027 10:00 - 17:00
<b>Public Health Masterclasses (online)</b>	<b>Masterclass 1:</b> 15 October 2026; 09:30-12:30 <b>Masterclass 2:</b> 21 October 2026; 09:30-12:30 <b>Masterclass 3:</b> 10 November 2026; 09:30-12:30 <b>Masterclass 4:</b> 26 November 2026; 09:30-12:30 <b>Masterclass 5:</b> 01 December 2026; 09:30-12:30		

### Portfolio Submission Deadline Dates

- **Commentary 1 Submission:** 01 February 2027, 12:00pm
- **Commentary 2 Submission:** 27 April 2027, 12:00pm
- **Commentary 3 Submission:** 20 July 2027, 12:00pm
- **Submission of completed portfolio:** 13 September 2027, 12:00pm



## Helpful Documents

- [\*\*UKPHR Guidance for Applicants, Assessors and Verifiers\*\*](#) – This document describes the framework and process for gaining registration with the UKPHR. It contains guidance on the requirements for applicants, assessors and verifiers. The guidance aims to assist practitioners in their interpretation of the UKPHR standards in support of developing their portfolio.
- [\*\*The UKPHR Practitioner Standards\*\*](#) – This is a standalone document which includes the UKPHR Practitioner Standards. This can be a helpful resource to print off and keep as a point of reference as practitioners work on their portfolio.
- [\*\*Public Health Practitioner’s Education and Training Directory\*\*](#) - This resource signposts to online courses linked to the knowledge requirements for the UKPHR standards. The directory identifies current education and training available for each of the individual public health practitioner standards to support individuals with their self-directed learning.
- [\*\*Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework\*\*](#) – This framework maps out the functional areas in which individuals, teams and organisations operate to deliver public health outcomes and address inequalities. This document is a useful resource which outlines the public health functions and sub-functions to help with greater understanding of the skills and knowledge required for public health.

## Application Process and Guidance

The below section provides an overview of what is required to apply to the Public Health Practitioner Schemes in the South East. Applications will need to be submitted online using Microsoft Forms as per below instructions. Please read the information below fully.

### Preparing your Application (see page 17 for the final checklist before submission)

- Practitioners will need to confirm they have their Line Manager/Employer support to making this application.
- Practitioners will need to ensure they fully understand the guidance, eligibility, and expectations described in this document.
- Practitioners will need to complete the Self-Assessment Form to identify whether they have sufficient knowledge and practice to complete their public health practitioner portfolio (separate word document).
- Line Managers will need to review the completed Self-Assessment Form and provide assurances that the practitioner will be able to complete the portfolio and demonstrate the practitioner standards sufficiently.
- Practitioners will need to complete and submit their application online.
- Practitioners will need to ensure their Line Manager and Director or Deputy Director of Public Health (if applicable) submit their approval and authorisation, using the link below, in support of the application.
- Practitioners will need to prepare a current CV for their application.

Section A, B and C include a copy of the online application template to support you in completing your application.

### Submitting your Application Form

Submission of completed application forms are to be made using the MS Forms link below.

1. **Practitioners** applying for a place will need to complete this link: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Application Form](#)
2. **Practitioners** applying for a place are required to complete the anonymised [Practitioner Scheme Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Form](#)
3. **Line Managers** will need to complete this form to confirm their support for the practitioner application: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Line Manager Authorisation](#)
4. **Director or Deputy Director of Public Health** (where the practitioner is employed in a public health team) will need to complete their declaration of approval: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Director Approval](#)



## Other Documents to prepare and/or submit

- **CV:** Practitioners will need to submit a current CV to [england.publichealthschools.se@nhs.net](mailto:england.publichealthschools.se@nhs.net) by 11 June 2026, 12:00pm.
- **Self-Assessment Form:** The self-assessment does not need to be submitted with the initial application but does need to be completed and reviewed by your line manager in advance of any application made. Practitioners invited to interview will be requested to submit the completed self-assessment form. The self-assessment is provided as a Word document for practitioners to update throughout the programme and will also be shared with the scheme facilitator to help guide ongoing development and support.

## Key Contacts

**Candidates working outside of a local authority public health team should contact the relevant scheme:**

- Kent, Surrey & Sussex School of Public Health: [england.ksspublichealthschool.se@nhs.net](mailto:england.ksspublichealthschool.se@nhs.net)
- Thames Valley School of Public Health: [england.tvpublichealth.se@nhs.net](mailto:england.tvpublichealth.se@nhs.net)
- Wessex School of Public Health: [england.wxpublichealthschoolse@nhs.net](mailto:england.wxpublichealthschoolse@nhs.net)

**Candidates working in a local authority public health team should contact their workforce lead in the first instance**

### **Kent Surrey Sussex**

- Kent: Ceirwen Thomas [ceirwen.thomas@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ceirwen.thomas@kent.gov.uk)
- Medway: Peter Macaulay [peter.macaulay@medway.gov.uk](mailto:peter.macaulay@medway.gov.uk)
- Surrey: Adam Letts [adam.letts@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:adam.letts@surreycc.gov.uk)
- Sussex: Karen Dennison [karen.dennison@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:karen.dennison@westsussex.gov.uk)

### **Thames Valley**

- Oxfordshire: [kate.austin@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:kate.austin@oxfordshire.gov.uk)
- Buckinghamshire: [emma.ross@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:emma.ross@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)
- Berkshire: [louisem.duffy@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:louisem.duffy@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

### **Wessex**

- Southampton: Alinafe Lavelle [alinafe.lavelle@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:alinafe.lavelle@southampton.gov.uk)
- Portsmouth: Rob Anderson-Weaver [robert.anderson-weaver@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:robert.anderson-weaver@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)
- IOW: Calvin Wright [calvin.wright@iow.gov.uk](mailto:calvin.wright@iow.gov.uk)
- Hampshire: Louise Bevan [louise.bevan@hants.gov.uk](mailto:louise.bevan@hants.gov.uk)



## Application Form Guidance (overview of online form)

**Sections A, B and C** provide an outline of the online application form. All applications for the Public Health Practitioner Registration Scheme will need to be submitted using the Microsoft Forms Link here: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Application Form](#).

Please refer to the **Application Process and Guidance on page 6** of this document when completing the online application form.

### Section A: Applicant details

<p><b>Please choose the scheme where your workplace is located. If you work in a regional team / homeworker, apply for the scheme closest to the main work base.</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Kent Surrey &amp; Sussex</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Wessex</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Thames Valley</p>
<p><b>Name</b></p>	
<p><b>Job title</b></p>	
<p><b>Email address</b></p>	
<p><b>Telephone number</b></p>	
<p><b>Employing organisation</b></p>	
<p><b>Employer address (including postcode)</b></p>	
<p><b>Agenda for Change band or <a href="#">Skills for Health Career Framework</a> level</b></p>	
<p><b>How long have you been in your current position?</b></p>	
<p><b>Please specify the duration of your experience working at your current Agenda for Change band or Skills for Health Career Framework level equivalent.</b></p>	
<p><b>Line manager name and email address:</b></p>	



## Section B: Supporting information

**Please detail in no more than 200 words why you are applying to the Public Health Practitioner Scheme, including any progress you have made to date on developing your portfolio.**

Describe your motivation and outline any steps you have already taken towards portfolio development.

**If you have any additional reasonable adjustments that you would like to share with us, please indicate in the table box below.**

Please describe any adjustments you require to support your application or participation. You may include the type of adjustment, reason and any relevant details.

### About your portfolio

Your portfolio will comprise of 3 discrete pieces of work (which is called a ‘commentary’), with evidence of knowledge and application of the 34 UKPHR standards. Having completed the self-assessment, please summarise below:

#### Commentary 1

<b>Title</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Please detail the type of evidence of knowledge and application you will use</b>	

#### Commentary 2

<b>Title</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Please detail the type of evidence of knowledge and application you will use</b>	



## Commentary 3

<b>Title</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Please detail the type of evidence of knowledge and application you will use</b>	

## Self-assessment form

<p><b>If you have identified development needs, please give more details and state how and when you plan to address these.</b></p> <p><b>If you have identified standards where you do not have appropriate evidence of knowledge and/or application, please give more details and state how and when you plan to address these.</b></p> <p><b>These must be addressed before February 2027.</b></p>	
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## Section C: Declaration

### Practitioner declaration of accuracy and commitment

Please confirm the following statements:

- I confirm that the information I have given is accurate.
- If accepted onto the practitioner development scheme, I agree to abide by its principles and to participate fully, including in the evaluation process and any ongoing support to the development of the scheme (future mentor/assessor).
- I confirm that all work submitted is my own personal work.
- If successful, I understand that 50% of the evidence submitted to a portfolio must be within 5 years of the date of applying for registration (Autumn 2027).
- I confirm my line manager has reviewed the completed self-assessment and we have a plan in place to address any areas for development by February 2027.
- I confirm that I have completed the [Equality and Diversity and Inclusion Form](#)

<p><b>Signature</b></p> <p>By entering your name, you are providing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• your consent to your information being shared with the School of Public Health, and those delivering and supporting the scheme</li><li>• confirmation that this is an accurate description of your eligibility to the scheme</li><li>• commitment to meeting the schemes' deadlines</li><li>• commitment to meet all mandatory elements of the scheme.</li></ul>	
<p><b>Date of signature</b></p> <p>Please enter today's date</p>	



## Line Manager Authorisation - overview of online form

Please read Part 1 and Part 2 in full before submitting the online approval

### Part 1: Line Manager details

Your Line Manager will now need to complete the Line Manager Authorisation in support of this application.

<b>Which scheme does this authorisation relate to?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Kent Surrey & Sussex <input type="checkbox"/> Wessex <input type="checkbox"/> Thames Valley
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<b>Please provide the name of the applicant you are supporting for UKPHR registration.</b>	
<b>Your name</b>	
<b>Your position</b>	
<b>Employing organisation</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	
<b>Contact number</b>	



## Part 2: Line Manager Authorisation

<b>Can you confirm that you will be line managing this applicant for the full duration of the programme?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>If no, please can you provide further details?</b>	

## Line Manager comments on the applicant's suitability

**Please provide below a signed written statement of support for the applicant (not more than 200 words), detailing the ways in which you feel the individual is suitable and ready for the practitioner development scheme.**

**Please include observations on:**

- Time management and meeting deadlines: how does the applicant manage their workload and approach deadlines in their current role?
- Communication and reliability: how does the applicant communicate about progress and timelines, especially if challenges arise?
- Professional integrity and accountability: how does the applicant demonstrate responsibility and openness when discussing their work, including any challenges or areas for development?
- whether the 3 commentaries proposed demonstrate breadth of public health practice which meet the UKPHR standards

## Line Manager states how they will support the applicant

**Please provide below a written statement of support for the applicant (not more than 200 words), detailing how you will support the applicant while on the practitioner development scheme.**

**Please include comments on:**

- Supporting time management and meeting deadlines: how will you support the applicant in managing their workload and working towards deadlines?
- Supporting communication and reliability: how will you encourage and support the applicant to communicate effectively about their progress and any changes to timelines?
- Supporting professional integrity and accountability: how will you support the applicant in developing a responsible and open approach to discussing their work, including any challenges or areas for development?



**As part of the self-assessment, the applicant has proposed pieces of work/evidence to support their portfolio. Please comment on whether these are appropriate, meet the UKPHR standards and are achievable as per the scheme’s deadlines.**

Provide your assessment of

- the suitability and achievability of the proposed evidence
- outline how you will support the practitioner to address development needs

**Is there anything else, from a line manager perspective, that we should be aware of to support this applicant successfully through the programme?**

Please share any additional information or considerations that may help us support the applicant.

## Line Manager confirmation of support

**Please confirm that you support this application. This will serve as your signature.**

- I confirm the practitioner is working at the appropriate level and has the necessary evidence to submit a retrospective portfolio.
- I confirm that I will support the practitioner to include this development into their Personal Development Plans.
- I will ensure that progress with the programme and portfolio will be discussed during one-to-one meetings with the practitioner.
- I confirm that I will support the practitioner to address development needs and support to identify appropriate work and evidence for their portfolio.
- I confirm that I will attend update and progress meetings with the School of Public Health in support of the practitioner.
- I confirm that I will support the practitioner to have protected time to attend the mandatory elements of the scheme.



## Director or Deputy Director of Public Health Approval - overview of online form

For completion by Director or Deputy Director of Public Health (for those employed by a local authority public health team)

<b>Which scheme does this declaration relate to?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Kent Surrey & Sussex <input type="checkbox"/> Wessex <input type="checkbox"/> Thames Valley
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<b>Please provide the name of the applicant you are supporting for UKPHR registration.</b>	
<b>Your name</b>	
<b>Employing organisation</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	

<b>I confirm that I support this practitioner's application</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Any additional comments</b> Please provide any further information or comments you wish to make regarding the applicant.	

## REMINDER: Online submission of Application Form

**The deadline for submission of application: 11 June 2026, 12:00pm**

Submission of completed application forms must be made using the MS Forms link below.

1. **Practitioners** applying for a place will need to complete this link: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Application Form](#)
2. **Practitioners** applying are required to complete the [Practitioner Scheme Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Form](#)
3. **Line Managers** will need to complete this form to confirm their support for the practitioner application: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Line Manager Authorisation](#)
4. **Director or Deputy Director of Public Health** (where the practitioner is employed in a public health team) will need to complete their declaration of approval: [Public Health Practitioner Scheme 2026 Director Approval](#)
5. **Submission of CV:** Practitioners will need to submit a current CV to [england.publichealthschools.se@nhs.net](mailto:england.publichealthschools.se@nhs.net) by 11 June 2026, 12:00pm.