

Who's who?

Our network of Cheshire & Merseyside Consultants in Public Health

CHESHIRE EAST

Dr Andrew Turner



Lead areas: Health protection and wider determinants of health

Andy is a biologist by background, with a PhD and several years' experience in academic research and NHS microbiology prior to beginning public health specialist training in 2016. He joined the Council in what was his first Consultant in Public Health role in August 2021. Andy leads on health protection (including communicable disease control and environmental public health) and on influencing the wider determinants of health. Andy has a particular interest in policy, creating healthy places and tackling the root causes of poor health and inequality, applying a public health approach to everything from spatial planning to economic development.

Dr Susan Roberts



Lead areas: Health intelligence and children and young people

Susie joined the team in July 2021. She is a Consultant in Public Health and Consultant lead for Health Intelligence and Children and Young People. Her previous experience as a junior doctor in hospital and as a GP has led to her passion for promoting wellbeing and preventing ill health at the earliest opportunity, from birth and throughout life. She is also passionate about joining up services to support people in the right way when they need it.

Guy Kilminster



Lead areas: Health improvement

Guy Kilminster (Corporate Manager for Health Improvement). Guy is responsible for helping to ensure that the residents of Cheshire East have long and healthy lives. Guy works with partners (internal and external) to address issues that might be contributing to health inequalities and premature mortality. He is closely involved in the work of the Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership and the integration of health and care in Cheshire East. He also works on sub-regional priorities, for example reducing alcohol related harms and supports the DPH to ensure effective functioning of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Dr Matthew Atkinson



Lead areas: Health care public health

Matt Atkinson worked in critical care, anaesthetics and acute medicine before joining the Public Health StR training scheme in 2015. He joined Cheshire East for his final placement before becoming a consultant in late 2022. Matt leads on health and care public health and has an interest in health informatics and digital leadership.

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER

Donald Read



Lead areas: Health Protection / Infection Control, Wider Determinants of Health and elements of Healthcare Public Health

Donald has a career spanning more than 20 years of experience in Public Health and wellbeing, including time spent as a nationally qualified Youth & Community Development worker with a strong focus on community health, as a specialist health worker located in an NHS provider, as a Public Health specialist based within a Primary Care Trust and as a Consultant in Public Health. Donald joined Cheshire West and Chester Council's Public Health team in 2014 and currently leads on Health Protection / Infection Control, Wider Determinants of Health and elements of Healthcare Public Health including health service quality. He is also portfolio lead for sexual health and substance misuse.

HALTON

Julia Rosser



Lead areas: Maternal and child health, mental health, workforce development and health inequalities

Julia is deputy director of public health in Halton Borough Council, with the lead for maternal and child health and is a lead trainer. She is also the Training Programme Director for Cheshire and Merseyside's public health training programme. Before becoming a public health consultant, Julia worked for the voluntary sector at home and overseas. She has a public health nutrition masters and managed community nutrition and dietetic teams in London and worked as the business manager at London regional public health office. Julia trained in Cheshire and Merseyside and has been working as a public health consultant at Halton Borough council for 11 years.

Beth Milton



Lead areas: Health protection, drugs and alcohol, sexual health, wider determinants of health

Beth is a Consultant in Public Health at Halton Borough Council. Her portfolio includes health protection, drugs and alcohol, sexual health, and the wider determinants of health. She is also interested in behavioural insight, and in asset-based approaches to working with communities. Beth is an Educational Supervisor, having trained in the Northwest (in Cheshire and Merseyside). In her previous career, she worked in academic public health, carrying out research into social inequalities in health and children's health.

Fiona Watson



Lead areas: Health care public health, dental public health, health environment

Fiona Watson joined Halton Borough Council as a consultant in public health in July. She is the lead for healthcare public health and working age adults. Fiona is a dentist and trained in dental public health in the West Midlands. She moved to Halton from the national dental public health team in OHID where she was providing support to policy and systems leadership around health improvement and health protection from a dental perspective. Prior to this, Fiona was a public health consultant at Stoke on Trent Council focused on children and young people, health protection and arts and culture.

KNOWSLEY

Richard Holford



Lead areas: Mental health and wider determinants of health

Richard has held a senior leadership role within Knowsley's public health team over 15 years, since 2007. He currently is the lead for public health strategy, mental health & wellbeing/suicide prevention and influencing the wider determinants of health and inequalities. He has extensive experience of leading on and influencing on activities related to public health strategy development, population health intelligence, domestic abuse, suicide prevention, health impact assessments and embedding 'health in all policies' across the council and wider stakeholders.

Richard also provides strategic support to the Knowsley Health and Wellbeing Board to aid its development and ensure it fulfils its statutory duties. This has included experience of being responsible for overseeing the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the production and implementation of the Knowsley Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS).

Richard is a verifier on the UKHSA Public Health Practitioner scheme, is a member of the C&M Wellbeing and Workforce Group and All Together Fairer (Marmot) Lead for Knowsley. He is the nominated research champion, has been the Council's lead on the National Institute of Health Research Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care North West Coast (NIHR CLAHRC NWC) and subsequent Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) programme.

Ross Keat



Lead areas: Health Protection, Healthcare Public Health, Oral Health and Sexual Health

Ross joined KMBC in November 2023, following completion of his specialty training programme in dental public health. A dentist by background, he has worked as a core trainee in Maxillofacial Surgery, in the West Midlands, West Yorkshire and the South-West of England. He still works clinically out of hours.

At KMBC, Ross leads on workstreams which predominately engage with clinical partners, allowing him to utilise his passion for healthcare public health to strategically lead workstreams within the NHS. He also health protection lead and oversees vaccinations, screening, sexual health, tobacco cessation, social prescribing and oral health.

Ross was an academic trainee and has published multiple peer reviewed papers. He is keen to work at the interface of academia and service provision, facilitating an understanding of best practice within public health.

LIVERPOOL

Emer Coffey



Lead areas: Health protection

Emer works in health protection in Liverpool, with colleagues in UKHSA, the NHS and beyond. She is passionate about advocacy for the marginalised, asylum seekers, vaccination, TB and emergency response.

A Dubliner, Emer studied medicine, trained as a GP, and had the privilege of working with Medecins sans Frontieres in Sudan, Ghana and Afghanistan. Armed with a Master's degree in Public Health for Developing Countries, she has happily established her roots in Liverpool since 2000. Keen to work with others to make a difference together.

Dr Elspeth Anwar



Lead areas: Wider determinants, addictions and research and development

Elspeth trained in the Northwest on the Public Health training scheme. She is a medical doctor by background. Elspeth was an academic trainee and has published multiple peer reviewed papers.

She is passionate about improving health outcomes and reducing health inequalities through driving collective action to improve the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age within Liverpool. She believes strongly in working with and empowering local communities to improve health outcomes.

Elspeth's current lead areas include wider determinants, addictions (drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gambling) and research and development, including being the lead for the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) funded Health Determinants Research collaboration Liverpool.

Chris McBrien



Lead areas: Health care public health, mental health and wellbeing

Chris is a Consultant in Public Health at Liverpool Council, having previously worked for Knowsley Council and trained in Cheshire and Merseyside.

Chris has extensive experience of working in the public and voluntary sector and her public health career to date includes health protection resilience and response, health improvement and community development, strategy development, service delivery, redesign and commissioning.

Her current lead areas include health care public health with a focus on long term conditions and multi-morbidity, healthy ageing and falls prevention, cancer, mental health and wellbeing. She is also leading the State of Health in Liverpool 2040 and its implementation.

SEFTON

Rory McGill



Lead areas: Mental health, sexual health, healthcare public health, behavioural science

Rory has a PhD in health psychology with years of postdoctoral academic experience in health inequalities research while he was based at the University of Liverpool's Public Health Department. This included specialising in qualitative research methodology and systematic reviews.

He was the most recent Chair for the Northwest Behavioural Science and Public Health Network where he established a workforce development programme for the North West. Rory is currently an Associate Postgraduate Dean for NHS England North West with the portfolio area of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. He is also Director of a national LGBT Health Inequalities Charity. Rory is currently a Consultant in Public Health at Sefton Council with portfolio oversight including mental health, sexual health and healthcare public health. His areas of interest include LGBT health, qualitative research, community engagement, the wider determinants of health and widening participation.

Charlotte Smith



Lead areas: Health protection, screening and immunisations, children and young people, tobacco control, oral health, cardiovascular disease and NHS Health Checks

Charlotte started as a consultant in Sefton Council after the Speciality training Programme in 2018.

Portfolio areas include health protection, EPRR, screening and immunisations, children and young people, tobacco control, oral health, NHS Health Checks, and some elements of healthcare public health, with a current focus on cardiovascular disease.

She chairs the Cheshire and Merseyside Immunisations Inequalities Group and co-chairs the Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance Prevention and Early Diagnosis Steering Group.

She is an educational supervisor and lead trainer for Sefton and has previously worked in clinical practice education roles. Prior to starting the public health training programme, in Cheshire and Merseyside, Charlotte worked for many years as a nurse in neonatal intensive care, completing an MSc in Advanced Paediatric Nursing.

Prior to undertaking nurse training in Bristol, Charlotte completed an undergraduate degree in physics followed by postgraduate research in physical analysis of biological interactions at surfaces.

She has a wide range of public health interests including improving quality of health care services, tackling health inequalities, and emergency preparedness and climate change.

St Helens

Shirley Goodhew



Lead areas: Wider determinants, healthy weight, physical activity, children and young people, tobacco control, teenage pregnancy, oral health, commissioning and social prescribing.

Shirley started employment with St Helens Council as a Consultant in Public Health in February 2022, and her portfolio includes wider determinants, healthy weight, physical activity, children and young people, tobacco control, teenage pregnancy, oral health, commissioning and social prescribing. Shirley is also an Education Supervisor, Professional Appraiser and a qualified Coach and Mentor.

Shirley has achieved a BSc Honours in Sport & Exercise Science from Lancaster University and a MSc Applied Public Health master's degree from Liverpool John Moores University. Shirley gained professional registration with UKPHR as a Defined Specialist in May 2021 via the portfolio route.

Shirley has over 20 years' experience working in the Public Health, starting her career in Bolton Council as Exercise Specialist, then NHS Ashton, Leigh & Wigan working in Healthy Schools, and progressing through various strategic leadership roles within Blackburn with Darwen Council Public Health team. Shirley also had secondments in Oldham and Bolton Councils as a Locum CPH.

Shirley lives in Chorley Lancashire with two teenage children and her dog Tigger, and enjoys walking, gardening, and travelling with friends and family.

Diane Bolton-Maggs



Lead areas: Health Protection, Healthcare Public Health and Sexual Health

Diane has been working as a Consultant in Public Health for St Helens Council since completion of her Specialist training in 2008. Her current portfolio includes Health Protection, Healthcare Public Health and Sexual Health.

Diane achieved a MSci (hons) in Chemistry from the University of Nottingham prior to completing a MSc in Applied Public Health from Liverpool John Moores University and a Masters in Public Health from the University of Liverpool. Diane gained professional registration with UKPHR as a Defined Specialist in 2016

Diane has over 20 years' experience working in the Public Health, starting her career in Public health research at John Moores University and then at the University of Manchester.

Michelle Loughlin



Lead areas: Complex Lives, Drugs and Alcohol, Mental Wellbeing, Suicide Prevention and Self Harm.

Michelle has worked as a Consultant in Public Health since 2006 across Greater Manchester including Rochdale and Bolton. She enjoys working with voluntary sector organisations and is an advocate for physical activity, particularly running, and its impact on wellbeing. Michelle also provides Public Health leadership to the Safer Communities Partnership and Youth Justice Board and is a team leader for Public Health Intelligence and Research. Public Health Trainer and Appraiser.

WARRINGTON

Jo McCullagh



Lead areas: Staying Well, Knowledge and Intelligence portfolio areas

Jo McCullagh is a Consultant in Public Health at Warrington Borough Council. She has 29 years' experience in Public Health practice working in health service, local authority, academic and voluntary sector environments, across all domains of Public Health. She currently leads the Staying Well, Knowledge and Intelligence portfolio areas, which includes healthy weight, physical activity, healthy place shaping, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment programme, Warrington Health and Wellbeing Survey and Strategy.

WIRRAL COUNCIL

Tracy Flute



Lead areas: Health inequalities, statistics and epidemiology and workforce development

Tracy joined Wirral as Consultant in public health in April 2023. Whilst new to Wirral, Tracy has over 20 years' experience working in Public Health. She has a background in statistics and epidemiology and is committed to ensuring we use our collective intelligence to improve health and address inequalities.

Tracy has worked at national level on the health inequalities agenda and is passionate about working with communities to truly understand needs and assets and address the wider determinants of health. Tracy has a real interest in workforce development, she is an Educational Supervisor and will support Registrars to achieve their learning outcomes. She also provides support to public health professionals who are progressing their public health career in other ways, including mentoring people pursuing Specialist Registration by Portfolio Assessment.

Jane Harvey



Lead areas: Children, young people and families

Jane began working in Wirral in 1998 as a research assistant in the Public Health team. During her 24 years of working for Public Health in Wirral, Jane also occupied the role of Director of Public Health for a period of 5 years (until her children came along). Since that point, she has been a Consultant in Public Health. She currently leads senior managers within the team (directing and supervising such lead areas as the Healthy Child Programme, Healthy Weight, NHS Health Checks) and is responsible for the Public Health Graduate scheme. She also mentors other employees as part of the council's corporate mentorship programme.

Jane is the current Public Health consultant lead for Children, Young People and Families and is passionate about putting them at the heart of the council's and wider Wirral partnership's agenda for reducing inequalities. Working closely with colleagues in Children's Services in particular, she is committed to improving the support offer to all children, whilst ensuring a targeted approach to those who need it most.

Jackie Davidson



Lead Area: Healthcare Public Health, Health Protection, Addictions and Sexual Health

Jackie is AD- Public Health Consultant and joined the Wirral Public Health Team in February 2024. Before this, she has worked in London for over 25 years, both in public health and in senior posts in the NHS. In her last post, as Integrated Commissioning Director, she was accountable to both Local Authority and the NHS and was responsible for bringing together primary care contracting and public health approaches to improve population health outcomes and address inequalities. She is a Nurse/District Nurse by background, has an MBA and undertook her MPH at Liverpool University.

Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Thara Raj



Thara is Director of Population Health and Inequalities at Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (WHHT). Thara's role is to support teams to improve the physical and mental health outcomes of patients, promote wellbeing and reduce health inequalities across the population and communities that the hospital serves.

Prior to joining the hospital, Thara was Director of Public Health for Warrington Borough Council and has worked in public health roles for over 30 years at a local, regional and national level. As an Education Supervisor, Thara has established WHHT as an official training location for public health registrars.

Liverpool Foundation Trust

Dr Paula Parvulescu



Lead Area: Healthcare Public Health

Paula is a Consultant in Public Health Medicine at the Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, where she is leading the Trust's prevention and equity agenda, helping the Trust to improve outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable. Prior to this role, she worked as a consultant in Public Health Medicine in Liverpool City Council, leading the healthcare public health portfolio.

Paula is a medical doctor by background. She is passionate about reducing inequalities, increasing value for money and maximising the impact of NHS resources. In her previous roles, Paula worked as a health economics and outcomes research consultant and in academia as a public health lecturer. She completed her post-doctoral studies as a research fellow in translational medicine at the Hospital



for Sick Children (SickKids) in Toronto, Canada. She is a member of the Technology Appraisal Committee and Indicators Advisory Committee at NICE.