



# THE NET

News, views & updates for the Wider Stakeholder Group

## Welcome to the 8<sup>th</sup> Issue of the London Teaching Public Health Network

### Welcome to 2010's First Newsletter!

**Autumn 2009 was a busy and productive time for the Network.** In October, we organized and co-hosted a large and successful Public Health Network event for the London Regional Public Health Group, and in December, completed the development and pilot of new teaching and learning materials for undergraduate or other pre-qualification level health professionals. We presented our work at various London events, including a seminar for the NHS London Health 09 conference and a research seminar on Childhood Obesity at the Kings Fund in London. We have also been successful in obtaining RPHG (DH) funding to carry out a study of current PCT commissioned weight management programmes in London. Further details, including news and updates on our work, are included below.

### Farewell to:

*Arabella Hayter, who helped on our childhood obesity project. We wish her well in her new job.*

### Public Health Event: 'Towards a Cohesive Public Health System in London'



Participants at the public health event at BMA House, London

Over 250 public health specialists, practitioners and academics attended a London wide public health event entitled 'Towards a Cohesive Public Health System for London' at BMA House, London on October 6<sup>th</sup> 2009. The one day event, organized and co-hosted by LTPHN and London Regional Public Health Group, provided an opportunity for participants to begin to support development of a joined-up, mutually supportive, sustainable, competent and effective public health system across the whole of London; essential in enabling delivery of London's public health targets. Simon Tanner, London Regional Director for Public Health, chaired the event and Sir Michael Marmot gave an update on the findings of the post 2010 Review on Health Inequalities in the UK. Cathy Hamlyn, Director



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## DIARY DATE

### UKPHA 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Health Forum 'Confronting the Public Health Crisis'

Bournemouth 24-25 March 2010

See our website [www.ltphn.org.uk](http://www.ltphn.org.uk) for this and other upcoming events

of the National Support Teams, spoke about the use of the teams to achieve public health goals and David Pencheon, Director of the NHS Sustainable Development Unit, spoke about the public health challenge of climate change. The event included a number of workshops, with a London focus, where it was possible to discuss public health issues, share good practice and progress and identify key outcomes or take home messages to inform future planning for London. These included immunization, the health impact of the recession, strategies on alcohol abuse, health inequalities, sustainable development and climate change, effective health intelligence, vascular risk and strategies for intersectoral public health action.

Frank Atherton, President of the Association of Directors of Public Health, presented the closing plenary, addressing some of the issues for directors of public health in London. Simon Tanner closed the event. A full report, including Martin McKee's [podcast](#) of the day and downloadable presentations, will be made available on our website in the very near future. For further information on this event please contact Fiona Sim or Lorraine Williams

### Project Update: Development of a new public health module for pre-qualification health professionals.

LTPHN was commissioned by DH to develop and test a new public health module, suitable for undergraduate or other pre-qualification health courses. The developed module, consisting of four discrete, but interconnected units on public health aspects of child health, coronary heart disease, stroke and diabetes, were piloted with 87 students from a range of health disciplines in November and December 2009. Pilot sites included University College London, Kings College London, City University London and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The units are now complete and consist of workbooks, PowerPoint slides with lecture notes, and can be downloaded from the [HealthKnowledge Website](#), in the teaching section of the site. HealthKnowledge is an

online resource for public health practitioners, healthcare workers and all those wishing to increase their public health skills. We have also included a link to the resources on our website [www.ltphn.org](http://www.ltphn.org).

### News update on PHORCaST

LTPHN has been supporting the work of PHORCaST for public health career development. PHORCaST stands for Public Health Online Resource for Careers and Skills Training, a UK wide initiative to develop a one stop information point for public health individual and workforce development. The resource is soon to go live and will be launched at the UKPHA Annual Public Health Forum in March (see details in diary date). For further information on this project see details on the Public Health Resource Unit website: <http://www.phru.nhs.uk>

### Alliance of Teaching Public Health Networks

The Alliance of Teaching Public Health Networks (ATPHN), comprising the nine regional Networks in England, has launched its new website at [www.atphn.org.uk](http://www.atphn.org.uk). This site provides a quick link to the work of all the regional networks, public health resources, news and events. Alongside PHORCaST, this will be an essential resource for public health capacity building.

### Weight Management Programmes in London

LTPHN has been successful in obtaining London Regional Public Health Group (DH) funding to carry out a brief study of PCT commissioned weight management programmes in London. The project commences February 2010 with a planned completion date of May 31<sup>st</sup> 2010. For further details please contact Fiona Sim or Lorraine Williams (contact details below) or see our website [www.ltphn.org.uk](http://www.ltphn.org.uk) for project updates.

#### Contact us....

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