

FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# Specialty Registrars' Committee (SRC) Annual Report 2023/2024

Chair: Cat Pinho-Gomes Vice Chairs: Clare Oliver-Williams, Pallavi Patel, Sam Tweed

www.fph.org.uk

### **Chair's foreword**



Cat Pinho-Gomes SRC Chair 2023/2024

I have been involved with the FPH and the SRC since the beginning of my training. Personally, this has been very rewarding even if, on occasions, it kept me busy! I experienced how registrars are treated with kindness and their voices heard by the FPH in matters related to training as well as FPH policy and strategy. The recognition and value that the FPH gives to registrars is exceptional in medical training. We have the privilege of sitting in all committees, where we can represent the views of registrars and make a material impact on our training and the variety of work led by the FPH. On behalf of all registrars, I thank the FPH for always having registrars' best interests at heart.

This has been a busy year, with many achievements. I am especially proud of the close relationship that we developed with the FPH president, Professor Kevin Fenton. We had two meetings for all registrars where the president shared his personal experience of training and leadership career. I am also proud of our amazing conference, which allowed registrars to network in person after the COVID-19 pandemic and discuss the future of Public Health in the UK and globally. I sincerely wish that the incoming SRC leadership organises an even better conference in 2025. As chair, one of my priorities was to compensate SRC members for the time and effort they commit to the SRC and the FPH. Therefore, I organised a leadership away day, kindly supported by the FPH, in which registrars had the opportunity to learn from a panel of renowned Public Health leaders and attend a leadership workshop focused on strategic networking and self-leadership.

As I approach CCT in August 2024 and end my term as Chair, I am pleased to announce the incoming leadership for SRC: Samuel Tweed and Clare Oliver-Williams as co-chairs, and Ugonna Nwankpa, Naomh Gallagher and Matthew Quinn as vice-chairs. I am sure they will continue to enjoy the incredible support given to us by the FPH as they take on their new roles.









Influence and advocacy



Networking and leadership



Workforce support and development



Training equity and diversity



Global presence and partnerships



# Governance and visibility



### Vision statement and aims

This year, we updated the vision statement and aims as well as the workplan, building on the good work done by the previous leadership. We expanded the workplan to include the SRC away day and the webpage update besides adding to the work streams of EDI, workforce, and global health. We continued to meet online but moved to one-hour monthly meetings.

### **Relationship with unions and UKPHR**

BMA and Unison representatives have attended SRC meetings throughout the year.

#### **SRC** webpage

We updated the <u>SRC webpage</u> to include our aims and vision, hyperlinks to our key documents as well as contacts for the SRC leadership.



# Influence and advocacy



### **Relationship with FPH**

We continued to strengthen our close relationship with the FPH and, particularly, the president Professor Kevin Fenton. We are very thankful to the support provided by Jame Gore (CEO), Julian Ryder (Deputy CEO) and David Chappel (Academic Registrar) for their open-door policy and willingness to meet with us to address training related issues. We promoted close relationship between registrars and the FPH by organising two meetings with the president and CEO, in which registrars had the opportunity to ask questions and learn from the training and career experience of the president. We remained united even when dealing with crises, such as the Gaza conflict.

The SRC chair has been actively supporting FPH strategic priorities through our involvement on several <u>Board Led</u> <u>Focus Areas of activities</u> (including What is Public Health Campaign and Wellbeing of Public health workforce).

We produced a bullying and harassment statement for the FPH in response to concerns about statements released by other royal colleges, which put the onus on the victim rather than the institutions that are responsible to look after employees.

#### **Influence through Committees**

We have increased our presence in the FPH committees by ensuring that we have two SRC reps in all committees. This is key for us to be able to influence decision making and be the voice of registrars in the FPH. We influenced the FPH in order to keep the FPH membership and DFPH exam fees for registrars and reduce the increase in the MFPH exam fees.



# Networking and leadership



### SRC conference (21 September 2023)

We organised the first SRC conference after the COVID-19 pandemic. This was an extraordinary event with lots of opportunities for networking and learning about the future of Public Health. About 100 registrars attended the event in person and many more joined online. We are very grateful to the support given by the FPH, especially Julian Ryder and Heather Kay Whatley, as well as the organizing committee (Dalia Youssef, Clare Oliver-Williams, Catherine Shuttleworth, Pallavi Patel, Pippa Williams, Tom Addey).

### SRC leadership away day (24 April 2024)

We organised the SRC leadership away day with the kind support of the FPH. This offered SRC reps the opportunity to learn from a panel of remarkable Public Health leaders working in diverse settings: Greg Fell (President of the ADPH), Laura Shallcross (Director of the Institute of Health Informatics, UCL); Susan Hopkins (Chief Medical Advisor at the UK Health Security Agency); and Sarah Price (Director for Public Health, NHS England). In the afternoon, there was a workshop focusing on strategic networking and self-leadership deliver by the company Aspire Leadership.



# Workforce support and development



#### Wellbeing

We supported the FPH wellbeing focus area by sharing the impact that hybrid/remote working was having on registrars. The FPH vice-president Professor Tracy Daszkiewicz joined our meeting in January to discuss how to support registrars' wellbeing. She listened to concerns raised by registrars regarding remote/hybrid working, which was felt to impact on mental wellbeing and reduce training opportunities. As a result, the SRC produced a guide for hybrid working to be shared with registrars and their supervisors.

#### Leadership skills

We organised two workshops on how to develop leadership skills in training placements for all registrars.

#### **NATP** webpage

We updated the NATP webpage to include details on the application process and eligibility criteria as well as a list of currently available NATPs and respective contacts.

#### Practice exam questions for DFPH

We developed new questions for the first part of the DFPH exam to help registrars prepare for the exam with questions that reflect the format and content of the most recent exams.



# Training equity and diversity



#### **Reasonable adjustments**

We presented the report on reasonable adjustments in the Education Committee and Curriculum Committee. We agreed with the FPH to signpost to the online report in the curriculum so that registrars and those responsible for their training are aware of best practice recommendations and legislation.

A new consultant with substantial experience of reasonable adjustments joined the Academic registrar in reviewing requests for reasonable adjustments for FPH exams. This consultant who has lived experience will enhance the fairness of the reasonable adjustments assessment. In addition, a new reasonable adjustments subgroup of MEDC has been formed to oversee FPH process of requesting reasonable adjustments.

#### FPH EDI agenda

We supported the great work currently being led by the FPH to address gaps in attainment in FPH exams and training progression based on ethnicity and other protected characteristics. We share the same commitment to ensure that no registrar is disadvantaged throughout their training and diversity is promoted in the Public Health workforce.



# Global presence and partnerships



### **Global health placements**

We published a global health placements guide on the <u>FPH website</u>. This was presented to Heads of School/TPDs and Postgraduate Dean, shared with Deans of 4 Nations, AOMRC trainee committee, BMA, and all training regions. We also delivered session at the SRC Conference on global health placements and opportunities in public health training in global health.

### **EuroNet**

We strengthened the EuroNet UK committee with a new UK board with broader regional representation and increased attendance at international meetings. We are proud to have the first UK registrar elected to international Board & Leads (as Internships Lead). Four UK registrars attended international EuroNet Spring Meeting in May 2024, representing UK registrars and contributing to policy development.

### **Global health committee**

We delivered a session at the FPH Global Health Committee (GHC) away day, secured update to terms of reference of GHC to embed registrar support as core part of committee workplan, thus strengthening the position of registrars in this committee.

# SRC at the EuroNet





Four Public Health registrars represented at the European Public Health Resident Conference, May 2024

# SRC leadership away day





# SRC conference 2023





