

Bolton's rich industrial heritage, arts and culture events, diverse population and major regeneration work provides unique opportunities for public health registrars interested in a wide range of public health projects.

Welcome to Bolton!

Bolton is one of the largest metropolitan boroughs in Greater Manchester with over 300,000 residents.

- 1 in 4 residents are aged 19 or under while 1 in 5 are aged 65+.
- Nearly 1 in 3 residents are from a background other than 'White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British'.
- Notably, Bolton has a large South Asian population, particularly residents of Pakistani and Indian descent.

There are significant health challenges in Bolton (you can find out more in our [JSNA](#)).

- Men living in the least deprived areas of the borough are expected to live 10 years longer than men living in the most deprived areas.
- For women, the life expectancy gap is 7 years.
- Overall, the health and wellbeing of residents is generally worse than England.
- Bolton is one of the 20% most deprived local authorities in England; 4 in 10 children live in poverty.

While there are health challenges, there are also many local assets which provide opportunities for health improvement.

- Bolton has a strong sense of community (our recent [Public Health Annual Report](#) showcases this).
- The area has a thriving voluntary, community, and social enterprises (VCSE) sector.
- There is ongoing investment into transport infrastructure, redevelopment of Bolton Town Centre, and enhancing the quality of our parks.
- Bolton enjoys high quality parks and open spaces including, Leverhulme Park, Queens Park, Smithills Country Park, Jumbles, Moses Gate Country Park, Seven Acres Country Park and the nearby West Pennine Moors.
- Bolton's architecture contributes to its sense of place. Buildings reflect Bolton's industrial heritage, Victorian prosperity (e.g., Bolton Town Hall and Bolton Market Hall), as well as more recent investment. The architecture also makes Bolton a popular film and TV location and the town centre has been featured in productions like Coronation Street, Peaky Blinders, Happy Valley and Captain America.
- There are many large arts and cultural events taking place which bring communities together. Events include the Bolton Food and Drink Festival, IRONMAN, Bolton Film Festival and performances at the Octagon Theatre.

In recognition of Bolton's Arts and Culture scene, the borough was awarded Greater Manchester Town of Culture for 2024.

To make the most of these assets, Public Health works closely with a wide range of internal and external partners. Partners include;

- Bolton University who provide important academic and research links for the council
- Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (ICB)
- Bolton Foundation Trust
- Primary Care partners including through the Locality Integrated Care Board, GP Federation and Primary Care Networks
- CVS and the wider voluntary, community and faith sector
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Residents

Registrars will have the opportunity to work with these partners during their placement at Bolton Council.

Training in Bolton

Bolton Public Health provides placements for both phase 1 and phase 2 registrars.

The public health team consists of the director of public health (DPH), assistant directors/consultants (ADs), strategic leads, specialists, public health practitioners, analysts, commissioning officers, and public health facilitators. There are four Educational Supervisors.

The team have monthly meetings where staff showcase their projects, workshop strategy development, and discuss ongoing challenges.

The public health team are welcoming of new registrars and are supportive of registrar development. Educational Supervisors (ESs) encourage registrars to participate in CPD opportunities and registrar network roles. Revision commitments for the MPH, DFPH and MFPH are reflected in workplans and there is a wider understanding of the competing pressures registrars experience.

The public health team have a flexible, hybrid working policy. Registrars are expected to be in the office the majority of the time. For FTE registrars, this is the equivalent of three days per week. Office days provide a great opportunity to meet the rest of the public health team and to learn more about Bolton!

The Public Health Directorate is located within the historic Bolton Town Hall which sits in the heart of Bolton Town Centre. The office is a short walk from the bus terminal and train station and there are several car parks nearby. For registrars interested in active commuting, the Town Hall has secure cycle storage and on-site showers (3x male, 3x female + 1x accessible shower stall) located in the south basement. Bolton Town Centre is home to lots of independent cafes and restaurants which provide affordable and tasty lunch options for in-office days.

Work Programmes

Registrar workplans reflect individual training needs and interests and offer opportunities to gain experience across the three domains of public health – health improvement, health protection and healthcare public health – and the core competencies of PH Specialty Training. Previous registrar projects have included:

- Leading the [Public Health Annual Report](#)
- Conducting Desktop Health Equity Audits and Needs Assessments
- Completing Evidence Reviews/Options Appraisals for Policy Development
- Supporting Service Evaluations

- Leading Strategy Development and Implementation
- Delivering Community Engagement Work
- Supporting Service Commissioning
- Managing Programme/Intervention Delivery

Bolton Public Health priority areas include:

- Developing Joint Work Programmes with Bolton FT.
- Implementation of the Tobacco Control Strategy
- Implementation of the Active Lives Strategy
- Embed Trauma Informed Approaches across council services
- Lead the development and delivery of a borough-wide prevention and inequalities framework
- Deliver Local Authority Public Health Protection Responsibilities
- Facilitate an Assets Based Community Development approach

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