Job Description
NIHR Academic Clinical Fellow in Prevention and Public Health: Public Health Medicine (UKHSA)
University of Bristol

1. Job title & entry level(s):

Academic Clinical Fellow
Public Health Medicine: ST1, ST2, ST3

2. Duration of post:

3 years (FTE)
Candidates working Less Than Full Time (LTFT) or would like should notify the relevant Local Office/Deanery at point of offer of your intention to work LTFT and this will be considered against the national eligibility criteria.

3. Hospitals in which training will take place:

This training post is based in South West Public Health training programme. Rotations have not been confirmed at this stage. Should you wish to explore this in more detail, please get in touch with the Training Programme Director.

Public health service training is based in United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) with some placements in local authorities locations in the North zone of the South West during the three years, and a placement with UKHSA South West for health protection training.

4. Research institutions in which training will take place:

University of Bristol - https://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/study/clinical/

Public Health training is based within Population Health Sciences (PHS), Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol: https://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/research/population-health-sciences PHS has a strong international standing in population health science, with recognition as a pioneering centre and a strong national profile with academic leadership in areas such as Public Health, Health Protection, Health Services Research, Evidence Synthesis, Primary Care and Surgical Research. The University of Bristol is one of the UK's foremost institutions for public health research. Our research aims to provide robust evidence on effective ways to improve population health and well-being and reduce health inequalities. We have major strengths in developing complex health interventions and evaluations through cluster RCTs and natural experiments, analysing public health and primary care policy and examining the roles of law and policy in public health, and carrying out evidence synthesis and applied epidemiological studies. Our areas of interest encompass obesity prevention, physical activity, nutrition, infectious diseases, mental health, smoking, alcohol and substance misuse, sexual health, multiple risk behaviours, law, governance, and ethics.

This post will be based in the Health Protection Research Unit within Population Health Sciences. NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Evaluation and Behavioural Science |(HPRU). The HPRUs are partnerships between UKHSA and universities to co-develop research that addresses key UKHSA health protection priorities. Our HPRU works very closely with Evaluation & Epidemiological Science Division (led by Prof Charles Beck) within UKHSA

Science Strategy & Evidence Directorate but also has projects with Behavioural Science and Insights Unit (BSIU), Immunisation and Hepatitis, STI and HIV Teams. With our partners, MRC BioStatistics Unit at university of Cambridge and University West of England, we focus on research to help reduce infectious diseases. The HPRU supports a multidisciplinary team of researchers and has five work themes: Co-produce, Optimise, Vaccinate, Evaluate, Eliminate. There will be opportunities to work with different research teams within the University and UKHSA to identify and develop future research application for the candidate.

5. Timetabling of clinical and research time:

75% clinical 25% research in a flexible way during the working week or months in accordance with pre-agreed arrangements between the clinical and academic supervisors.

6. Description of research component of programme

Fellows starting in ST1 without an MSc in Public Health will study for an MSc in Public Health full-time at the University of Bristol. Following the MSc, the Fellow will spend 3-3.5 days per week on public health service work and the remaining time in the University of Bristol Health Protection Research Unit, within Population Health Sciences, developing research ideas and writing papers for publication. As research fellowship applications will need to be submitted in the early part of Year 3, a greater amount of academic contact will typically occur in year 2 compared to year 3.

By the third year of the fellowship the Fellow will be expected to have submitted papers for publication in peer reviewed journals and to have presented at national Public Health conferences. Final preparation of the research fellowship application will be led by the candidate with support from their academic trainer, the fellowship supervisor(s) and appropriate research staff in the department. The Fellow may spend time on relevant short research courses run within the school (e.g. epidemiology / regression models / longitudinal data analysis: Short courses | Bristol Medical School | University of Bristol). Regular meetings with the educational supervisor and academic supervisor will continue throughout the year. At the end of the three-year post, post-holders who are successful in obtaining a doctoral fellowship award will apply to the Faculty of Public Health and the Training Programme for time 'out of programme' to complete their PhD.

The post-holder will have access to expert statistical advice when necessary, will receive basic training in computer skills, will have access to a computer for word processing, spreadsheet, graphics and statistical or qualitative software.

7. Description of clinical training component of programme

The post-holder will join the South West Public Health training programme led by the Head of School, Professor Maggie Rae. The post will be supported by established supervisors (one educational, one academic) who will regularly review training needs based on the Faculty of Public Health's assessment guidelines. On the basis of joint review with the Fellow, a suitable training programme will be agreed and regularly updated, to ensure satisfactory progress towards obtaining the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) in Public Health. All Fellows will be part of the region's existing programme of Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP). A Public Health tutorial programme is co-ordinated for all trainees within the region.

A local programme of update sessions on Health Protection is led by the Health Protection team at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

After appropriate training in Health Protection, the post-holder will participate in the local on-call for UKHSA. This commitment will be no more than on a one in nine basis and will always be supervised by a member of Consultant staff. They will not be placed on the on-call rota until they have completed health protection training (unless this has already been undertaken in another region) and passed the on-call assessment and local induction programme.

To obtain a CCT in Public Health the post-holder will need to complete up to 2 years further training after completion of the Academic Clinical Fellowship, so that CCT requirements are met.

8. Academic Supervisor / Academic Programme Director:

Integrated Academic Training Lead(s):

- Professor Shelley Potter (shelley.potter@bristol.ac.uk)
- Professor Helen Winter (helen.winter@uhbw.nhs.uk)

Academic Lead:

- Public Health Medicine: Professor Matt Hickman (Matthew.Hickman@bristol.ac.uk)
- Public Health Medicine: Professor Ruth Kipping (Ruth.Kipping@bristol.ac.uk)

UKHSA Education Lead

- Professor Charles Beck, Deputy Director, Evaluation & Epidemiological Science and Educational Supervisor (UKHSA) (Charles.Beck@ukhsa.gov.uk)

9. Clinical Training Programme Director:

- Public Health Medicine:
  - Professor Maggie Rae (maggie.rae@nhs.net)

10. Deanery contact for further information:

Recruitment Hotline: 01454 252 610
Recruitment Inbox: England.acfrecruitment.sw@nhs.net

11. Useful websites for further information:

NIHR Integrated Academic Training Website: http://www.nihr.ac.uk/IAT

BMA Junior Doctor Pay Scales (link to latest pay Circular): https://www.bma.org.uk/pay-and-contracts/pay/junior-doctors-pay-scales/pay-scales-for-junior-doctors-in-england

University Clinical Academic Training website: https://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/study/clinical/

South West Public Health Training Programme Home - Public Health

This job description was prepared September 2026.