

Speaker Biographies



Professor Ged Byrne

Director of Education and Quality - North, Health Education England

Ged is a surgeon by profession. Having graduated in Manchester in 1989, he trained in Manchester, Scotland, India and the West Midlands returning to Manchester as a clinical lecturer in 1997.

Having been appointed a senior lecturer and consultant surgeon in 2000, he was appointed Hospital Dean in South Manchester in 2004. He founded the Universities' Medical Assessment Partnership in 2003 and became the founder director of the Medical Schools' Council Assessment Alliance. He also led the establishment of the UHSM Academy in 2009.

In 2010 he became Professor of Medical Education at the UoM and was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship by the higher education academy. In 2012 he became Associate Dean for Communications at the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences at the University of Manchester and an honorary Professor of Health Sciences at The University of Salford.

He took up his current role as Director of Education and Quality for Health Education North West in December 2013 and has recently been appointed as Director of Education and Quality for HEE (North). He has a long-standing interest in global healthcare capacity building and education, leading the development of the GuluMan healthcare link and he is the founder director of the Uganda-UK Healthcare Alliance. He passionately believes that education must be globalised for all NHS staff if they are to offer a fit for purpose role in the future of healthcare in the UK.



Professor Viv Bennett

Chief Nurse for Public Health England: Government's Principal Advisor on Public Health Nursing

Viv has been Chief Nurse for Public Health England since 2012 (initially as Director of Nursing in a joint role with Department of Health and since April 2015 solely within PHE as Chief Nurse). As such she is the Government's Principal Advisor on Public Health Nursing, providing high quality and independent nursing advice to ministers and officials on policy issues and public health nursing and the national lead for developing public health nursing and midwifery.

Viv has had a special interest in services for children and young people in all of her clinical and leadership roles. She leads in the national public health programme 'Best Start in Life' and delivered the Health Visiting Programme, the 0-5yrs Transition Programme and School Nurse Development Programmes.

Viv trained as a nurse in Oxford in 1976 and worked in children's nursing before training as a health visitor in Oxford in the early 1980s. She worked as a health visitor and research health visitor in Oxford whilst studying for a BA and then Masters degree at University Bristol in health and social policy. She is Honorary Fellow and Visiting Professor at King's College London and is a Fellow of the Queen's Nursing Institute and the Institute of Health Visiting.



Janet Flint

**Programme Lead, Public Health – National Programmes
Health Education England**

Janet is the Programme Lead for Public Health within the national programmes team at Health Education England. Janet moved to HEE in 2013 following a brief spell at the Department of Health working on the Modernising Pharmacy Careers Programme. A pharmacist by background, she spent her early career as a community pharmacy manager before moving to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society where she spent many years in various education policy and regulatory roles before moving to the General Pharmaceutical Council for a short spell overseeing the implementation of mandatory CPD and revalidation policy for pharmacy professionals.

In various freelance roles Janet has developed a range of educational materials to support the prevention and healthcare public health agenda, including course materials for Royal Society for Public Health - accredited Level 2 qualifications by the such as Applied Health Improvement, Understanding Behaviour Change, Understanding Dementia and Understanding the Delivery of NHS Health Checks.



Kirstie Baxter

**Head of Workforce Transformation, Health Education England
North West Team**

As Head of Workforce Transformation for HEE (NW), Kirstie leads on the development of the workforce and education offer to support delivery of the new care models.

Working as a key partner in the design and delivery of place-based systems of care, Kirstie's role is to support systems to identify the whole workforce requirement, against which appropriate education and training investments can be made – whether that be focused on quality and retention of workforce supply, up-skilling existing staff, introducing new roles or developing new ways of working. Prior to this Kirstie was the Assistant Director for Education Management with NHS North West and led on the development of strategies to improve quality and maximise educational investment across the whole non-medical workforce, including apprenticeships. Kirstie's professional background is in nursing, where she specialised in theatre for 10 years, before progressing to a range of roles in service quality, practice development and project management.



Sue Louth

**North West AHP Workforce Lead, Health Education England
North West Team**

Sue qualified as a dietitian in 1990 and undertook a series of clinical, managerial and leadership roles in a number of hospitals, before moving into a post as clinical governance manager in a large acute Trust. She then moved into a strategic regional role in 2006.

Sue is currently the AHP Workforce Lead at Health Education England North West Team. She is responsible for the management and delivery of a range of work programmes to support the development of the regional AHP workforce, to ensure it is fit for purpose and able to deliver excellent care. This includes identifying and implementing new AHP roles and new ways of working to support service transformation, developing leadership capacity and capability, influencing CPD priorities and enabling AHPs to become more involved in research and innovation. Sue co-chairs the North West AHP Workforce Board and through this Board facilitates the provision of professional workforce and education intelligence to Health Education England North West Team and wider stakeholders.



Alison Farrar

**Public Health Workforce Manager, Health Education England
North West Team**

Working as part of the Health Education England North West Team wider transformation team, Alison's role is to build public health capacity and capability across the healthcare system in the North West.

Her work has focused on health improvement and associated education resources such as a Making Every Contact Count E learning education programme for the health, care and voluntary sectors.

Recently Alison has developed and piloted a quality assurance toolkit for undergraduate healthcare curricula for public health content.

Prior to that Alison joined the Champs public health network to deliver a public health workforce development programme across Cheshire and Merseyside. (2008 -2013)

Before her appointment at Champs Alison undertook a variety of health improvement roles at Wirral PCT including the obesity lead for the public health team.

Alison originally trained as a nurse and midwife at Lancaster before settling on the Wirral to work and raise a family. Experience as a practice nurse and in the private sector led to a career change in public health in order to pursue a particular interest in preventing illness and health promotion.



Paula Wheeler

**Public Health Workforce Manager, Health Education England
North West Team**

Paula has had a long and varied career in the NHS; a senior public health professional with more than 20 years' experience across the public sector, she has worked in a variety of roles within National Cancer Screening Programmes including regional screening lead for Cumbria and Lancashire and Research Manager for a large HPV randomized trial in primary care.

In 2015 she led and co designed a Public Health England pilot programme for multi professional talent management development. Paula has a Master's Degree in Health and Community Research, and a BA Hons in Law. Areas of interest include: leadership for digital technology in health, delivering health improvement through partnerships, and '5th wave' population health. She has recently returned from a very enjoyable 6 month employment break in the Arctic Circle!



Mike Farrell

**Head of Education Transformation, Health Education England
North West Team**

Mike is a trained nurse and has developed a strong interest in developing and testing education approaches supporting the development of the healthcare workforce.

Mike is working with other teams and stakeholders to ensure that public health issues are a golden thread in all education developments being supported by Health Education England.