

I am pleased to respond on behalf of the UK Public Health Register . As the UK body responsible for the Registration and Regulation of Specialists in multidisciplinary public health, we welcome the Green paper and in particular the emphasis that is given to training and the clear recognition of the multidisciplinary nature of public health and its workforce. It is hoped that our experience may be of interest and value to those concerned with workforce development in Europe.

Five years ago, this Register was established to be a regulatory body, charged to offer public protection and to enhance both the public perception and professional standing of professionals from a range of backgrounds who work as specialists public health.

Recognising that as yet, there was a limited number of prospective training programmes, the UKPHR pioneered the use of portfolio assessment based on competencies acquired through prior experience. This enabled senior public health professionals from a range of backgrounds to be recognised as public health specialists. This was designed to be both flexible and inclusive of past experience and yet ensured rigorous standards of medical consultant level professional practice.

Currently approximately 400 have been recognised as specialists, now with an increasing number coming from approved prospective training programmes. The Register is currently exploring the possibility of some form of registration for public health practitioners and is seeking to support the wider work that is being undertaken in the UK on regulation for health professionals in general.

If you would like any further information do please contact us.

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