

*The UK Public Health Network is partly supported by The Health Foundation, an independent charity committed to bringing about better health and healthcare for people in the UK.*

## UK Public Health Network Strategic Plan, 2019-2022

**Vision:** To see the UK become the healthiest possible place in which to live.

**Mission:** To bring together the UK's generic public health organisations to speak consistently, within and outside the public health system, on the strategic priorities needed to improve the public's health and wellbeing.

### Values:

- **Engaging:** generate system-wide conversations
- **Investigating:** map the emerging issues and work that needs to be done
- **Connecting:** create alignment between public health bodies and policies across the UK

### Objectives:



#### Collaboration

The UK Public Health Network is a capacity-building forum that enables public health organisations across the UK to share knowledge and experience on strategic issues to improve the public's health.

To encourage collaboration in the UK public health system, we will:

- Collaborate with Network members, where possible, to align public health messages, prevent duplication of effort and avoid undermining members' work.
- Generate strategic discussions across the system.
- Explore and share learning across the four nations.
- Change the narrative around the public's health, from a focus on the impact of behaviours to the determinants of health.



#### Engagement

There are diverse and difficult challenges to the public's health. The UK Public Health Network should ensure engagement with Network members and observers by promoting a common and collective agenda to tackle the overarching system issues in improving public health and wellbeing in the UK.

To ensure the Network is engaging to public health professionals, we will:

- Act as a catalyst for Network member and observer actions.
- Promote the value of health and wellbeing as a key asset for the UK economy by promoting health as the first wealth and encouraging health in all policies.
- Hold 'safe space' workshops on challenging issues.
- Hold Network summits to discuss key strategic issues of common importance across the four nations.

- Develop consultation response capacity and alignment.



### **Investigation**

There is a need for public health organisations to stop surprising each other with unexpected positions and announcements. The UK Public Health Network should overcome this by investigating any emerging issues and be a thought-leader for best national practice in addressing health and wellbeing across the UK. To do this, we will:

- Identify public health policy areas where the Network may add value or contribute to the debate at a strategic level.
- Map the landscape of current and emerging public health issues.
- Explore greater collaboration and do-once-and-share initiatives.



### **Business**

The UK Public Health Network has secured funding for three years, from 2019-22. To ensure long-term stability of the Network, we will:

- Look to secure sustainable and diverse funding.
- Ensure funds are spent efficiently.
- Promote the role of the UK Public Health Network as an essential component of the UK public health system.