



Whole System Event: Greater Manchester Zone

Lancashire Cricket Club, 12th December 2000

Report compiled by Jane Black and Maria J Grant

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1. Public Health Observatories: A Brief Overview [\[top\]](#)

Public Health Observatories (PHOs) have been set up in each NHS region of the country, in order to strengthen the availability and use of information about health at local level. Their main tasks will be to support local bodies by:

- monitoring health and disease trends and highlighting areas for action;
- identifying gaps in health information;
- advising on methods for health and health inequality impact assessment;
- drawing together information from new sources to improve health;
- carrying out projects to highlight particular health issues;
- evaluating progress by local agencies in improving health and cutting inequality;
- looking ahead to give early warning of future public health problems.

(Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation)

The intention is for PHOs to work closely with the health sector, local government and other bodies, and to be closely linked with universities.

The Public Health Observatory for the North West region has been organised into three zones, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cheshire, and Lancashire and Cumbria. The Institute of Public Health Research and Policy at Salford University co-ordinates the Greater Manchester Zone and decided to organise this Whole Systems Event.

2. Aim of the Whole System Event [\[top\]](#)

This Whole System Event (WSE) aimed to bring together a cross-section of people across Greater Manchester who are either providers or users of information about health and health inequalities in the broadest sense. It focused on their experiences of providing and accessing this information. Whole systems events recognise that it is important to bring a wide range of people together to engage in dialogue and conversation, rather than rely on existing contacts. The event was organised as a 'working day' to generate ideas and involve participants actively in setting local priorities, identifying existing skills and resources and consider how the work of the PHO can complement and add value to what local public health agencies and others are already doing.

Invitees to the event were also encouraged to join the Greater Manchester Zone's e-group, in order to stimulate via an email network debate and discussion about public health information. Information providers were also asked to bring along posters and displays about their work.

3. Programme Summary [\[top\]](#)

The working definition of public health information used at the event was:

'information that supports the development of practice or policies that promote the physical, mental and/or emotional wellbeing of groups or communities.'

Working in small groups, participants began by sharing their personal experiences of providing and using public health information. They then identified a checklist of good and bad practice for providing and using information (see Section Four). Over coffee people were invited to walk around the room and look at the posters brought along by the information providers. Armed with green and red sticky dots, they marked those information sources which they have used, or those which they might find useful in the future and were interested in obtaining more information about (see Section Five).

The afternoon session sought to identify current and imminent information needs. People were asked to think about information they were currently looking for but did not know where to find. They were also asked to consider any likely developments that may lead to new information needs.

There then followed a 'real time trading' session when the room was filled with requests for information, offers of assistance and messages. This was designed to give people some tangible connections to take away with them and provide a visible demonstration of the benefits of a public health information network. This type of fact finding and sharing was seen as a starting point which would be developed and maintained through the web site of the North West Public Health Observatory (www.nwpho.org.uk/home.htm) and the Greater Manchester Zone e-group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pho-knowhow>). Examples of the offers and requests generated are included in Section Six.

4. Learning from Personal Experiences of Using and Providing [\[top\]](#)

Information

Having shared their experiences of good and bad practice for providing and using information, participants identified the following themes. They show that a distinction between users and providers was helpful to some extent, but there was also considerable overlap, many people seeing themselves at some stage as both users and providers of public health information.

From a user perspective

- In an ideal world, users would be clear about what they wanted to achieve, have an open mind, ask informed questions and be committed to using information in a way that was fit for purpose.
- However, many users did not always know what information/data existed and what questions to ask, and often wasted time working this out. There is scope for training in this area to build users' capacity to ask the right questions to meet their needs.
- Users asked for help from providers to understand information and data sources better, ensure information is relevant and avoid information overload. They asked for short cuts from the 'experts' and reliable, robust high quality information that was user-friendly.
- Many points were made about the need to make public health data more accessible to non-specialists. Some commented on the seeming possessiveness of providers, and how different sources of information are often not comparable. Some people knew data existed but didn't know how to access it. At times the cost of accessing information was a barrier, also the time it could take an agency to process a request for information.
- The context in which information was needed was important. Too often, time factors influenced the quality of information,

particularly pressures to collect ad hoc information. Ideally, users should have more ongoing familiarity with and access to baseline information sources, as part of good strategic planning – not wait till they are up against a deadline to put data together for a funding bid or report. They asked for help using data to analyse long term trends and the implications of these for policy and decision-making.

- Different agencies frequently relied on partial information, and greater shared information and ownership was called for. The emergence of new organisations like Primary Care Groups, and increased partnership working and planning across agencies and sectors is making new demands on information sources. Users called for the joining up of different information worlds, dialogue between specialist and generic information providers and for maximising the flexibility of how information/data can be interrogated, e.g. at ward/enumeration district levels. They want quantitative and qualitative data that is comparable at all levels. They felt that providers holding different information needed to develop trust in each other's data and each other.

From a provider perspective

- Information providers wanted better partnerships with users, and more trust and joint ownership. They felt they would provide better and more useful information if they were aware of the bigger picture and given feedback, not just asked to churn out statistics for a particular task. If baseline information was made more widely accessible e.g. via websites, it was felt that routine information requests could be directed that way, freeing up providers to become more involved with interpretation and analysis. They would also be keen to work with users to identify information gaps and ways of filling these.
- The provision of high quality information was seen to include a range of factors. Providers needed to have access to all the relevant information sources and be capable of analysing and understanding these. They should be able to manipulate data at different levels, e.g. geographical, for a particular issue/theme or target group. They needed to find out what information is held where, who knows about what, and be prepared to work with each other across agencies to 'puzzle things out' and learn/find answers together. They should be committed to clarity of presentation and to demystifying complex data for a lay audience. There would always be important issues to address about confidentiality of data, protocols for sharing information between agencies and the implications of data protection and human rights legislation, but these should not be used as a barrier.
- Agencies should develop confidence in each other's data and work together to provide a co-ordinated resource. It was suggested that a set of agreed quality standards could be developed and become a kitemark of good practice. Providers must be able to give good advice to users and support them to learn how to access and interpret information. They should act as information brokers, providing links, directions, and signposts.
- The nature of what was seen as credible information and data was raised, and the importance of local knowledge, expertise and experience was emphasised alongside hard data and statistics. Providers and users should give increased weight to views, experiences and knowledge held by local individuals and communities, also to data and information held by voluntary and community organisations. Statutory agencies needed to allocate resources to regular effective consultation and participation, and work together to avoid 'overkill', e.g. in a particular geographical area. The example was given of one local council that had developed a corporate register of consultations – as a way of sharing and making the best use of information from different consultation exercises carried out.

5. Information Providers Within the Greater Manchester Zone [\[top\]](#)

From the registration forms for the Whole System Event (WSE) those who identified themselves as 'information providers' were invited to present a poster at the WSE. The posters – which outlined the types of public health information their organisation hold, provide or can generate on request – were then used as the focus for WSE participants to indicate the types of information sources they already use, that they might find useful in the future, or were interested in obtaining more information about. Digests of the posters presented are reproduced in Appendix One.

Several key themes were identified from the posters presented at the WSE.

The provision of *public health statistics* was common to the majority of information providers attending the WSE, whether this information was collated nationally and provided at ward or district level e.g. the Planning Studies Department of the Manchester City Council, or regionally collected data such as survival rates for cancer patients within Greater Manchester and Lancaster (including South Cumbria) collected by the Centre for Cancer Epidemiology.

Education and training in public health information was covered by a number of organisations within the Greater Manchester Zone. A range of perspectives were identified, from identifying skills gaps e.g. a research project currently underway at the Bolton Institute, through to the development of new training programmes e.g. the planned development of a Masters level course in Public Health at the Evidence for Population Health Unit at the University of Manchester.

A variety of services facilitate access to collections of *health promotion* leaflets. Such collections are available from local health promotion services.

The emergence of *electronic networks* as a means of collaboration and information sharing was identified. Several networks are being developed with the purpose in mind utilising discussion groups such as the NW PHO web site and the Greater Manchester Zones 'e-group' (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pho-knowhow>) to the web site development (currently under construction) of the Inclusion Zone (www.inclusionzone.com) incorporating online newsletters, a discussion forum and workshops for practitioners and policymakers concerned with services for children and young people.

This type of fact finding and sharing facilitated by the Whole System Event is seen as a starting point which could be developed and maintained through the web site of the North West Public Health Observatory (www.nwpho.org.uk/home.htm) and the Greater Manchester e-group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pho-knowhow>).

Specific requests for further information have been passed to the respective organisations, who will be following up with those making the request in person.

6. Real Time Trading [\[top\]](#)

The afternoon provided the opportunity for some 'real time trading', when participants were given the opportunity to make requests for information, offers of assistance and messages. This was designed to give people some tangible connections to take away with them and provide a visible demonstration of the benefits of a public health information network. Seen as a starting point for public health information networking, it is hoped that this type of fact finding and sharing will be developed and maintained through the web site of the North West Public Health Observatory (www.nwpho.org.uk/home.htm) and the Greater Manchester e-group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pho-knowhow>).

Offers

Examples of offers of information and possible collaboration included:

a) Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)

The Greater Manchester Zonal Group of the Observatory said that it had access to funds to commission a piece of work on Coronary Heart Disease in Greater Manchester. The work desired included an equity audit, work to map clinical networks and to identify innovative evidence based prevention initiatives. A number of people indicated interest in following this up after the event. (See Section Eight.)

b) Development of Health Indicators

A significant number of people offered to be part of a network that would share information about developing and using health indicators. This would include 'Health' (as opposed to illness) indicators for SRBs, community development, neighbourhood renewal etc.

Requests

Examples of requests for information and possible collaboration included:

a. What's on the horizon?

Information providers working in public health asked policymakers present to tell them more about the main kinds of strategic policy developments coming up in the next year that they could be asked to provide information for. The list below was put together – it may not be fully comprehensive, but lists some key developments. Where possible, an initial contact has been given for more information.

- New Commitment for Neighbourhood Renewal, the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, Neighbourhood Management pilots, Local Strategic Partnerships, Public Service Agreements (www.seu.gov.uk).
- Local Government modernisation, including new forms of civic leadership (e.g. cabinets, elected mayors, scrutiny committees, community strategies, powers to promote well-being). Arising from Best Value, the need to gather information at ward level, connecting services and local performance targets (www.detr.gov.uk, links to information on local and regional government and regeneration).
- Funding opportunities are likely to generate demands on information providers. These include the Children's Fund, New Opportunities Fund programmes on areas of health (cancer, CHD, palliative care), young people, sport, the environment and education (www.nof.org.uk). Arrangements for regeneration funding are changing, and will include the forthcoming 'single pot' funding to be run by the NWDA and revised funding for New Deal for Communities. Hilary Sayers from Manchester City Council has offered guidance on initial queries (h.sayers@notes.manchester.gov.uk). There is likely to be increased emphasis on the evaluation of initiatives and identifying good practice in terms of 'what works' (www.hda-online.org.uk/evidence/).
- New organisational forms, partnerships and changing boundaries, e.g. Primary Care Groups merging into Primary Care Trusts,

Connexions Partnerships, Learning and Skills Councils (links from www.open.gov.uk).

b) A number of other requests were made, including:

- Information that would support local target setting, including indicators of (poor) health outcomes and GIS mapping of the determinants of health and ill health. Ways to evaluate the impacts of regeneration initiatives on health and well-being. Information on effective strategies that tackle health inequalities.
- Information about who else is working on specific areas, e.g. mapping of food deserts, tools for health impact assessment and community business/enterprise & how it relates to health

7. Feedback About the Event, and Messages to the Public Health [\[top\]](#)

Observatory Zonal Unit

At the end of the day, participants were the opportunity to give feedback about the event, and send messages to the Public Health Observatory. These included:

- *'A great day – fabulous networking.'*
- *'I was impressed by people's offers.'*
- *'Some more ideas about practical arrangements for networking might have been useful.'*

Most people said the event was very useful, particularly as an opportunity for information sharing, networking and for finding out who is producing what. A number of people said the day was well organised, and that it was good to be allowed the time to make their own connections, and to learn from so many different agencies.

The PHO was asked to bear in mind the following as its work develops:

- *Please keep explanations and summaries of work simple so people at all levels can understand.*
- *Include a search facility on the web site.*
- *Don't forget those who need to collect data as well as exchange it.*
- *Don't use red and green dots for the activities, if you're colour blind they're useless!*
- *More events of this style. Don't turn everything into a 'meeting'.*
- *Try harder to involve more people from the community.*
- *Keep up the 'high profile'.*

8. The Next Steps [\[top\]](#)

The North West Public Health Observatory is about real people making real connections in working together to strengthen the availability and use of information about health. We therefore see the observatory as existing beyond those employed in its zonal units. However, we do have a role to play in facilitating information sharing, and several initiatives have moved forward since December 2000.

Coronary Heart Disease Meeting

Following on from the offers of information at the Whole System Event, the Greater Manchester Zonal Group of the Observatory organised a meeting of interested parties regarding a piece of work on coronary heart disease (CHD) in Greater Manchester. The group explored the local research and development agenda for CHD using available resources from Region. Ideas included: work on further development of CHD registers to ensure they are used most effectively and appropriately; and work to link indicators of quality service provision with indicators of need. A further meeting has been arranged in February. For further information contact: Arvin Prashar, Research Fellow, NW PHO (Greater Manchester Zone). Tel: 0161 295 2805 Fax: 0161 295 2818 Email: A.Prashar@salford.ac.uk

E-group

The pho-knowhow e-group forms the basis of a virtual network of information suppliers and users of public health information in the Greater Manchester area. It is open to those working in Local Authorities, Primary Care Groups and Trusts, Health Authorities, NHS

Trust, Voluntary and Statutory Sector. The group, whose management has recently been taken over by Yahoo, currently has 24 members from a wide cross section of organisation, and continues to grow at a pace. For further details of the Greater Manchester Zone e-group, including details on how to join, can be found at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pho-knowhow> Alternatively, contact the e-group co-ordinator, Liz Farrell on 0161 787 0091 or email: liz.farrell@ph.sat-ha.nwest.nhs.uk

Information Review

In the next few months, the information specialists of zonal groups will begin a review of public health resources across the North West region. The group will be seeking to review the existence of information and data in order to identify gaps in coverage. It will not be developing its own collection, but will aim to direct others to appropriate resource centres either in hard copy or via the NW PHO web site (see below). The group is currently developing a list of organisation to approach in the first tranche of its review. Web site: www.nwpho.org.uk/home.htm

Public Health Information Reports (PHIRs)

Work is currently underway on three Public Health Information Reports (PHIRs); one from each zone. (Lancaster and Cumbria Zone: mental health; Greater Manchester Zone: coronary heart disease; Merseyside and Cheshire Zone: cancer.) The reports are intended to provide a broad range of intelligence to guide local policy and practice. They will identify data sets and mechanisms for monitoring health trends, measure progress towards policy targets and interpret data to identify inequalities across the Region. They will also offer examples of good practice in using public health information to enhance policy/practice development.

For further information contact: Arvin Prashar (Greater Manchester Zone: coronary heart disease): Tel: 0161 295 2805 Fax: 0161 295 2818 Email: A.Prashar@salford.ac.uk

For information about the Public Health Information Reports to be produced by the other two zones, contact details are on the North West Public Health Observatory website (see below).

Development of Health Indicators

Given the interest in this area it is proposed that it will be discussed with the two other North West zones with a view to future action by the NWPHO.

Web site

The NW PHO web site has been live since September 2000. It now contains a series of published reports on aspects of Public Health within the North West Region, including online weekly and monthly bulletins. Regular News articles are produced highlighting events and issues happening locally around the North West and these are often linked to "Special Reports". There are two searchable databases that are being developed and added to continuously. The first contains details of Information Sources and their availability (either on the web or hard copy) on a Regional and National level. The Information Review (see above) will ultimately feed into this resource. The second is a database of public health related web sites and is currently populated with over 1200 sites. Over the next few months, a review will be undertaken of both the content and functionality of the web site, in order to carry out a re-development. There is an online registering facility allowing us to let users know of updates. Users of the site are encouraged to register with them mailing list, and feedback, comments and suggestions are welcomed. Web site: www.nwpho.org.uk/home.htm

Greater Manchester

The new lead for the Greater Manchester Public Health Observatory is: Dr Paul Bellaby, Institute for Public Health Research & Policy, 4th Floor, Humphrey Booth House, Hulme Place, the Crescent, Salford, M5 4QA. Tel: 0161 295 2819, email: p.bellaby@salford.ac.uk. The Project Manager working with Paul is Jane Black, based at the same address. Tel: 0161 295 2803, email: j.black@salford.ac.uk.

9. Appendix : Digests of Posters [\[top\]](#)

The following digests represent posters presented at the Whole System Event (WSE) of the Greater Manchester Zone of the North West Public Health Observatory (NW PHO) on 12 December 2000. Many of the organisations and sources of information are already in heavy use. However to give an indication of areas of burgeoning interest, the summaries have been arranged by the basis of the number of

expressions of interest and possible future usage.

National Primary Care Research and Development Centre (NPCRDC)

The National Database for Primary Care Groups and Trusts produced by the NPCRDC contains core public health information datasets, including:

- DETR deprivation indices by PCG/T 2000
- General medical services statistics 1998
- General medical services statistics 1999
- Health outcomes and mortality data
- Local authority data about community and social services
- ONS 1991 census linked to the characteristics and activities of general practice
- PCG/T budget resource allocation information
- Prescribing (PACT) data from the Prescriptions Pricing Agency

For further information contact: Andrew Wagner, Research Fellow, National Primary Care Research and Development Centre, 5th Floor, Williamson Building, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL Tel: 0161 275 7654 Email: a.wagner@man.ac.uk
Website: www.orgs.man.ac.uk/npcgdb/

Evidence for Population Health Unit (EPHU)

The EPHU is seeking to develop teaching programmes for health professionals, consumers and multi-agencies in how to assess quality of data/evidence.

For further information contact: Professor Richard Heller, Evidence for Population Health Unit, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL. Tel: 0161 275 7718 Email: dick.heller@man.ac.uk

North West Public Health Observatory (NWPHO) Information Review

The NWPHO aims to improve the access and use of public health information in the Region. Its information group will be undertaking a regional collation of public health information sources in 2001, to identify gaps in public health information provision.

For further information contact:

- Regional Co-ordinating Centre: Karen Tocque, Information Specialist and Web Design Team Leader, North West Public Health Observatory, John Moores University, 70 Great Crosshall Street, Liverpool L3 2AB. Tel: 0151 231 4475 Fax: 0151 231 4435 Email: k.tocque@livjm.ac.uk
- Lancashire and Cumbria Zonal Group: John Welshman, Health Information Specialist, North West Public Health Observatory (Lancashire and Cumbria Zone), The Management School, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YX Email: j.welshman@lancaster.ac.uk
- Greater Manchester Zonal Group: Maria J Grant, Research Fellow (Information), North West Public Health Observatory (Greater Manchester Zone), 5th Floor, Humphrey Booth House, Hulme Place, The Crescent, Salford M5 4QA Tel: 0161 295 0454 Fax: 0161 295 2825 Email: m.j.grant@salford.ac.uk
- Merseyside and Cheshire Zonal Group: Neil Bendel, Health Information Specialist, North West Public Health Observatory (Merseyside and Cheshire Zone), Department of Public Health, University of Liverpool, Whelan Building, Liverpool L69 3GB Tel: 0151 794 5579 Fax: 0151 794 5588 Email: n.bendel@liverpool.ac.uk

Web site: www.nwpho.org.uk

Health Authorities (HAs) in Greater Manchester

A range of key public health resources is available within health authorities. These include:

- Comparative datasets e.g. compendium of clinical and health indicators
- Health Services e.g. hospital activity data

- National Surveys e.g. national survey of NHS patients with results at a HA level
- Policy indicators e.g. clinical effectiveness indicators
- Population and vital statistics e.g. deprivation indicators

For further information contact:

- **Bury and Rochdale Health Authority:** Richard Pinkney, Senior Information Analyst, Bury and Rochdale Health Authority, 21 Silver Street, Bury, Lancashire BL9 0EN Tel. 0161 762 3065 Fax 0161 762 3071 Email: Richard.Pinkney@bury-roch-ha.nwest.nhs.uk
- **Manchester Health Authority:** Neil Bendel, Health Information Manager, Manchester Health Authority, Gateway House, Piccadilly South, Manchester M60 7LP Tel: 0161 237 2390 Email: bendeln@manchester.nwest.nhs.uk
- **Salford and Trafford Health Authority:** Paul Daly, Information Manager (Analysis), Salford and Trafford Health Authority, Peel House, Albert Street, Eccles, Salford M30 0NJ Tel: 0161 787 0212 Email: Paul.Daly@ph.sat-ha.nwest.nhs.uk
- **Stockport Health Authority:** Dan Byrne, Information Services Manager, Stockport Health Authority, Springwood House, Poplar Grove, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 5BY Tel: 0161 419 4655 Fax: 0161 419 4699 Email: Dan.Byrne@stockport-ha.nwest.nhs.uk
- **West Pennine Health Authority:** David Lamb, Senior Information Manager, West Pennine Health Authority, Westhulme Avenue, Oldham OL1 2PL Tel: 0161 622 6576 Fax: 0161 627 8282 Email: david.lamb@wpennine-ha.nwest.nhs.uk
- **Wigan and Bolton Health Authority:** Paul Campbell, Bryan House, 61 Standishgate, Wigan WN1 1AH Tel: 01942 772723 Email: paul.campbell@wab-ha.nwest.nhs.uk

Manchester, Salford and Trafford Health Action Zone

Twenty six Health Action Zones (HAZs) have been established in England, in areas of deprivation and poor health to tackle health inequalities and modernise services through local innovation. Manchester, Salford and Trafford HAZ participated in the Whole System Event, although information about work by the other HAZs is available from the following web site: www.haznet.co.uk

Manchester, Salford and Trafford Health Action Zone coordinates a range of projects, which include:

- Indicators of health inequalities and the social, economic and environmental factors that cause them (Health Profile)
- A comprehensive listing of activities that can help to promote good health, ranging from NHS doctors and dentists, to advice centres and yoga classes in church halls (Health Profile)
- How to implement a joined up approach to organising and providing local health and social care services (Innovation Fund Project)
- How to involve local people in determining how and where local services should be delivered (Innovation Fund Project)
- How to reduce duplication in the management and provision of services at a local level (Innovation Fund Project)

For further information contact: Annabel Hammond (Project Manager), Amanda O'Hely (Office Manager) or Gerry Stone (Project Officer), Real Lives: A Choice for All, Room 28, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford M32 0YX. Tel: 0161 912 1168 Fax: 0161 912 4282

Institute for Public Health Research and Policy (IPHRP)

The Institute of Public Health Research and Policy (IPHRP) is based within the University of Salford. Much of its work seeks to contribute to understandings about the causes of health inequalities in health. In particular, the Institute aims to:

- Undertake high quality research and reviews to improve population health and reduce inequalities;
- Work with policy makers and service providers to link findings to policy and practice;
- Provide proactive support within the NHS in the north west region.

Examples of its work include:

- **Inclusion Zone:** The Inclusion Zone will act as an online resource of public health information for those concerned with the health and wellbeing of children and young people. It will include: a bi-yearly online newsletter; databases of current/recent local and national initiatives, policies and research and development activities; a discussion forum; online workshops and links to relevant web sites. Web site: www.inclusionzone.com
- **Reducing Health Inequalities in the North West: Building Organisational Capacity:** Funded by the North West NHS region, this is a 3-year project (2000-2003) in which a team from the Universities of Salford and Liverpool are working with 7 'local health networks' across the north west to help them increase their effectiveness in tackling health inequalities. The project includes both

development work (through local learning sets and project wide workshops) and evaluation. For further information contact: Angela Young Tel: 0161 295 2813 Email: a.r.young@salford.ac.uk

- **Social Action Research Project (SARP):** Funded by the Health Development Agency (HDA), this is a 3 year project (January 1999 to December 2002) concerned with tackling health inequalities by strengthening communities through initiatives aiming to support the development of social capital. For further information contact: Emma Rowbottom Tel: 0161 295 2815 Email: e.rowbottom@salford.ac.uk

For further information contact: Institute for Public Health Research and Policy (IPHRP), University of Salford, 4th Floor, Humphrey Booth House, Hulme Place, The Crescent, Salford M5 4QA Tel: 0161 295 2800 Fax: 0161 295 2818 Email: iphrrp@salford.ac.uk Web site: www.salford.ac.uk/iphrrp/

Centre for Cancer Epidemiology

The Centre for Cancer Epidemiology (CCE) is part of the University of Manchester and is sited in a dedicated facility on the Christie Hospital NHS Trust site in South Manchester. The Centre commenced as a research unit in the field of cancer but has evolved into a health services research department with a wide remit. It includes the Regional Cancer Registry covering Greater Manchester and Lancashire; a Public Health Cancer Resource Centre and a NHS Research and Development Trials Support Unit. It also includes members of the Family History Clinic.

The North Western Regional Cancer Registry (NWRCCR) collects data on all residents of Greater Manchester and Lancashire (GML) who develop cancer, and has been gathering data for over 30 years. Population based incidence and survival data is available at various levels of aggregation data is currently complete for incidence years up to and including 1998.

For further information contact: David Chandler, Information Manager, Centre for Cancer Epidemiology, Kinnaird Road, Withington, Manchester. M20 4QL Tel: 0161 446 3570 Email: d.chandler@cce.man.ac.uk Web site: <http://www.cce.man.ac.uk/>

Employing Intelligence Initiative: Health Sector Professionals

This research project focuses on the skills base of health sector professionals, and will generate information including:

- Identification of skills shortage and gaps in the health sector regarding qualifications and skills
- Evaluation of the demand, supply and long term market of graduate level skills and continuing professional development
- The impact of graduate level employees on their job, peers and patients

For further information contact: Rebecca Riley, Bolton Institute, Deane Road, Bolton BL3 5AB Tel: 01204 903804 Email: rr4@bolton.ac.uk

Manchester Planning Studies Group (PSG)

The Manchester PSG regularly analyse a range of information and data to assist local government in planning its services. This includes public health data and vital statistics from the Office of National Statistics and the Manchester Health Authority relevant to the Manchester area.

At a district level information is available on: crude death index; general fertility rates; infant mortality rate; perinatal mortality rate; standard birth rates.

At district and ward level information is available on: births by county of birth; births outside marriage; crude birth rates; crude death rates; death by age group; death by cause; deaths by country of birth; low birth weight; standard death rates; still birth rate; teenage conceptions.

For further information contact: Sheila Ritchie, Planning Studies, Manchester City Council, Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester M60 2LA Tel: 0161 745 9529 Fax: 0161 745 9157

Mancunian Health Promotion Specialist Service

The Resource and Information Library Service of the Mancunian Health Promotion Specialist Service provides health promotion materials and resources for loan from two bases in the city, free of charge to anyone with a role in health promotion. Public health resources available include books, journals, leaflets, models, posters, reports/surveys and online information and databases. Help is available from

the resource officers to aid searches. The range of topic areas covered includes broad health promotion issues, lifestyle information, and information about local projects (partnerships, methods, outcomes etc).

For further information contact: Health Promotion Resource and Information Library, Withington Hospital, Victoria Mill, Lower Vickers Street, Miles Platting, Manchester M40 7LJ Tel: 0161 203 4101 or Health Promotion Resource and Information Library, Withington Hospital, Nell Lane, Manchester M20 2LR. Tel: 0161 291 3642

Salford Information Centre

Public health information resources available include:

- Comprehensive database containing details of local clubs, groups and societies
- Council information
- Extensive leaflet collection covering a wide range of subjects including consumer rights, employment, the law, health, DSS/Benefit Agency etc

For further information contact: Julie Stonebanks, City of Salford Information Centre, Broadwalk Library, Broadwalk, Salford, M6 5FX
Tel : 0161 745 9529 Fax : 0161 745 9157 Email : broadwalk.library@salford.gov.uk

Environmental Services Directorate/Public Protection Division of Salford City Council

Public health information is available on:

- Accident data (occupational health)
- Air quality/premise data
- Consumer safety data
- Data on dogs, litter, graffiti, dumping, street cleansing
- Food poisoning data
- Infectious diseases (in conjunction with Salford and Trafford Health Authority)
- Levels of noise complaints
- Levels of pest infestations (rats, mice, cockroaches etc)
- Number of food premises etc
- Recycling rates
- And many more...

For further information contact: Nigel Powell, Assistant Director (Public Protection), City of Salford Environment Services, Crompton House, 100 Chorley Road, Swinton, Salford M27 6ES. Tel: 0161 793 2048 Fax: 0161 793 2138 Email: nigel.powell@salford.gov.uk

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