

Compare roles in health

Not sure where to start with the hundreds of NHS careers? Use our compare roles section to get bite-size information on the entry requirements and training, pay and conditions, prospects and skills needed of up to three roles. If there is something that you think you could do, then get more in-depth information on the role.

Don't forget, you can also save your role comparisons by registering with us.

• **Director of public health [1]**

Directors of public health hold some of the most pivotal strategic and leadership positions.

Training and qualifications required

The main route to become a director of public health is through initial completion of specialty training. In some circumstances, it is possible to achieve specialist status through a 'portfolio' route where individuals present a portfolio of experience for assessment, to demonstrate that they have gained sufficient experience that is deemed to be equivalent to completing specialty training.

Expected working hours and salary range

While you may usually work standard hours, it's likely you will need to be available outside normal working patterns, for example in the case of a public health emergency, for media interviews etc. Salaries for directors of public health are likely to be between £70-100,000 or more depending on the requirements of the role (around equivalent band 9 of Agenda for change or comparable local authority pay scale).

Desirable skills and values

You'll have substantial experience of public health practice at a senior level in order to be able to make visionary, challenging and often difficult decisions about how services are delivered. You'll have high-level skills in diplomacy, appropriate for working in complex political and social environments.

Prospects

Further opportunities for directors of public health include more senior government roles or political consultancy and advisory roles.

Related roles

- Public health consultants and specialists [2]
- Public health manager [3]
- Public health nurse [4]

- Environmental health professional [5]

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Links

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