About the Royal Society of Public Health

The Royal Society of Health, also known as the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health, was established in 1876 following the landmark Public Health Act of 1875. Previously known as the Sanitary Institute (1876-1904) and the Royal Sanitary Institute (1904–55), it was created during a period of great change within the areas of public health provision and sanitary reform to which it contributed significantly.

During its first fifty years, the Society became the leading public health organization both in Great Britain and the rest of the world. It was soon renowned for events and conferences on pioneering and topical issues, and developed qualifications for people working in public health professions. By the 1950s, the Society was a leading authority in its field, and was regularly consulted by governments and the international press on health-related issues. Since the 1970s, the Society has focused its activities on the most successful areas of its work - examinations, certification, and the journals Public Health and Perspectives in Public Health.

Today, RSPH is the longest-established public health organization in the United Kingdom. It is incorporated by Royal Charter completely independent of government and of any special interest. Members are academics, health professionals and practitioners who share an interest in promoting health through their daily work, and come together through RSPH membership to provide cross-cutting, multidisciplinary perspectives on current health questions.

2018 Recipient of the APHA Honorary Membership

Professor Sir Andrew Haines, MBBS, MD, FRCP, FFPHM, FRCP, FMedSci

Andy Haines was Dean (subsequently Director) of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine for nearly 10 years until October 2010 and is currently Professor of Environmental Change and Public Health.

He was a family doctor in inner London for many years and formerly Professor of Primary Health Care at UCL. His international experience includes a secondment at WHO Geneva and work in Jamaica, Nepal and the USA. He has participated in many national and international bodies including the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (on 3 occasions), the UK DFID Research Advisory Group (latterly chair) and the WHO Advisory Committee on Health Research. He was chair of the Rockefeller Foundation /Lancet Commission on Planetary Health and led several Lancet series including the 2009 Lancet series on the ‘Public health benefits of strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions’.

He is currently a member of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network Leadership Council, the Scientific Advisory Panel of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and the Rockefeller Council on the Economics of Planetary Health. His research interests focus on the linkages between health and natural systems and the health (co-)benefits of ‘low carbon’ policies, sustainable healthy cities and food systems.