



The Association of Port Health Authorities established in 1899, is the only UK wide organisation representing the interests of Local Authorities and Port Health Authorities with responsibilities for health controls at sea and airports. Port Health Authorities are constituted with the primary objective of preventing the introduction into the country of dangerous epidemic, contagious and infectious diseases and ensuring the wholesomeness of imported food.

There are members of the Association throughout the UK who actively work to share expertise and best practice to deliver a consistent and effective port health service. The Association welcomes applications from any organisation or individual with an interest and knowledge of port health matters; for example, medical and veterinary practitioners.

The Association plays an important role in protecting public health through liaison with government departments and agencies, local authorities and internationally through the EU, the World Health Organisation and trade bodies. It contributes significantly to national and international policy development and keeps its members up to date with changes in legislation and guidance.

With BREXIT on the horizon, it is essential that Port Health Authorities have a collective voice to ensure that emerging concerns are raised with relevant Government Departments.

The vision of the Association of Port Health Authorities is "To be the lead agency in promoting port health in the UK by assisting our Members in the provision of consistent, high quality services for the protection of public, animal and environmental health"

This vision will be achieved through the following aims and objectives:

- Promoting consistency amongst member authorities by developing policy, enforcement guidance, and identifying and disseminating good practice.
- Influencing central Government departments, Agencies and the European Commission regarding policy, legislation and enforcement.
- Supporting and promoting effective co-ordination, cooperation and collaborative arrangements between Local Authorities and Port Health Authorities.
- Developing effective partnership and collaborative working arrangements with key stakeholder organisations and relevant European and international agencies.
- Increasing capability of member authorities through the provision of training and information.
- Continuing to raise the profile of port health services with key stakeholders including local authorities, Government Departments and Agencies, European Commission, industry bodies and consumer organisations.
- Identifying and developing strategy and policy to tackle any emerging issues of port health significance.

MEMBERSHIP

The Association is constituted as a **not for profit** company registered at Companies House. It is **run by the members**, for the benefit of members, and relies on the contributions made by member authorities in terms of officers time as well as fees. It has 2 grades of membership open to Local Authorities in the UK and Islands; there are other grades of membership for individuals, other organizations and overseas.

1. Corporate Membership (£1000 *per year* + VAT))

Corporate membership is the main route of involvement by Local Government and is available to any UK Local Authorities or Port Health Authorities, which have responsibilities for public and/or animal health in connection with aeronautical, maritime and coastal activities, and international and intra-community trade and travel.

Corporate members can vote at General Meetings of the Association and provide, through local Authority Elected members and port health officers, delegates to serve in the executive roles.

In order to reflect the status of Corporate members APHA are committed to ensuring that there is a clear difference in financial benefits between Corporate and PLaN Membership.

Benefits of Corporate Membership

- Influence of APHA policy decisions by voting rights at AGM
- Availability for election to Executive Board/O&S
- Full access to the Member area of the website
- Free places for some Officers at PLaN and other training sessions. Corporate Member rates for other training.
- Free copies of the APHA handbook
- Access to the monthly newsletter to enable Officers to keep up to date with current issues

2. PLaN MEMBERSHIP (£342 *per year* + VAT)

Port Liaison Network (PLaN) membership is a lesser form of membership designed for small ports. It is open to any UK Local or Port Health Authority which has responsibilities for public and/or animal health in connection with aeronautical, maritime and coastal activities. PLaN members may attend, but do not have the power to vote at, General Meetings, and may attend meetings of any Port Liaison Network in the UK.

A PLaN member is not entitled to attend meetings of Technical Committees, nor be nominated for election to either the Executive Board or the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Benefits of PLaN Membership

- Free places for Officers at PLaN meetings
- PLaN Member rates at other training
- Access to the buddy system information & advice from Corporate ports on technical matters
- Access to the monthly newsletter to enable Officers to keep up to date with current issues
- Access to copies of the APHA Handbook at a cost

PLaN groups currently exist in Scotland, Wales, England – North, and South. It is hoped to establish a PLaN group for N.I. at the earliest opportunity but will require a number of Councils to join as Corporate or PLaN members to attract APHA PLaN funding.

Please visit the website at <http://www.porthhealthassociation.co.uk/>

For the latest monthly newsletter click on the link on the website