



SSHA

SOCIETY OF SEXUAL
HEALTH ADVISERS
Individual and Public Health

CHRISTMAS 2020 NEWSLETTER

Dear Colleagues

We thought we would end the year with a short newsletter to remind us of the positive things that have happened in 2020 and the positive things to look forward to in 2021!

As always, we would like to hear from you if you have any projects or news to share. Also please get in touch if you have any work issues or difficulties. SSHA/Unite may be able to help you: for example we have supported a number of SHAs over the past year with advice about training, job descriptions and staffing concerns. Phone or email your Regional Rep at www.ssha.info

2020

We held our first **SSHA Annual Conference** online in September and were thrilled to receive excellent feedback on content and organisation. We're delighted to report that delegates attended from Germany as well as the UK.



We have supported SHAs to become part of the **Covid Track and Trace** scheme and ensured that they have been paid correctly. In addition, SSHA has commented on Covid Test and Trace for BBC Newsnight, BBC Wales and the Mail on Sunday.

SSHA has been involved in meetings with **PHE** and Dr Susan Hopkins (Interim Chief Medical Adviser, NHS Test & Trace), advising on "What should the ideal test, trace, isolate and support system look like?"





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Plans for 2021

We are hoping to build on the success of our SSHA 2020 conference and have two Zoom **webinars** planned – hopefully in March and June 2021, followed by our 2021 SSHA annual conference in September. If you would like to present any work or projects, please contact me at ceri.evans@chelwest.nhs.uk

SSHA is planning on initiating stronger links with SHAs in **Europe**. We will discuss what we have in common and what we do differently, with a view to planning joint work. SSHA is currently in contact with some SHAs in Germany, but if you know of SHAs in other European countries, please let us know at ceri.evans@chelwest.nhs.uk



We are planning an online **MI training** course in the Spring – please check the website and newsletters for further information and booking.

SSHA and BASHH will form part of a working party to advise on the **DoH Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy 2021**.

SSHA has been invited by the **British Psychological Society** Special Interest Group for HIV & Sexual Health to write a briefing report for commissioners on Chemsex and Psychological Support. We are looking forward to a closer working relationship with the BPS and developing joint projects.



We hope that this helps you to look forward to 2021! We wish you a happy and safe Christmas and New Year. On behalf of the SSHA OPC, we send you, as always, fortitude and resilience.