

# The Honorary Graduand: Tracy Daszkiewicz

**The Orator: Doctor Julie Mytton**

**Tracy Daszkiewicz is to be awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science.**

Tracy has over 25 years' experience working in health and social care, across the civil service, NHS, Local Government and the Voluntary Sector. She began her career in the voluntary sector working with people living with or affected by HIV in the 1990s. From here she worked with young people living with complex needs and multiple vulnerabilities, including supporting young parents, young people being exploited into crime, sexual exploitation, or addiction.

With a proven track record, Tracy is interested in transforming services and bringing social change. She has contributed to key social policy, including challenging Section 28 and also lobbied for childcare cost be met for young parents to enable them to finish their education. She has a long history of challenging inequality and reducing vulnerability.

Her ambition is to build healthier places through access to excellent education, safe places, warm homes, prosperity and community connectedness. The impact of low income, job instability, poor housing and isolation has on health is her focus and she believes that all children deserve the best start in life, through to healthy adulthood, living in thriving communities, where everyone has a job, a home and a friend.

Alongside these principles Tracy has expertise in Disaster Risk Reduction, and recovery. She has worked on a number of major incidents, including; pandemic flu, flooding, Foot and Mouth, Anthrax, HIV. She was the Director of Public Health and led the local public health response during the Novichock incident in Salisbury in 2018 and more recently she has worked on the Covid response.

She is currently working towards a Professional Doctorate in Public Health, researching the role of public health in the human aspects of recovery following major incidents. She is a Visiting Professor at the University of the West of England, holding visiting lecturer roles with both UWE Bristol and Exeter University. She is also a Trustee of Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service.

In her spare time she is a wife to Ted, Mum to three daughters and one son, has two grandsons and a little sausage dog called Fig. An avid reader, film watcher and reluctant walker.