

Smith L (Lee-Anne)

01-47

From: Glen J (John)
Sent: 28 February 2007 14:49
To: Smith L (Lee-Anne)
Subject: FW: draft Smoking Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act, 2005



Variation of Age
Limit.doc (39...

JOHN GLEN
Tobacco Control Team
Public Health & Substance Misuse Division
Area 3 E
St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG

-----Original Message-----

From: Doig, Fiona [mailto:Fiona.Doig@borders.scot.nhs.uk]
Sent: 28 February 2007 14:33
To: Glen J (John)
Subject: draft Smoking Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act, 2005

This email has been received from an external party and
has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

Dear Mr Glen,
Please find attached NHS Borders' response to the above consultation:

<<Variation of Age Limit.doc>>

Yours sincerely

Fiona
Fiona Doig
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Date : 1 March 2007
Your Ref
Our Ref: LM/TF/FD

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Mr John Glen
Scottish Executive Health Department
Tobacco Control Division
3R(R)St Andrews House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Mr Glen

Consultation on the draft Smoking Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act, 2005

Please see below for our response to the Consultation on the draft Smoking Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act, 2005 (variation of age limit for sale of tobacco purchase and consequential modifications) Order 2007.

Q1

Do you agree that the age of purchase of tobacco products should be raised to 18 as provided for in the draft Order, and with the assumptions made in the partial RIA? - **Yes**

Q2

Issues which we think require to be addressed in preparation for the proposed change in the legal age for purchase:

The ongoing work by the Scottish Executive to reduce tobacco related harm in Scotland and its investment in local smoking cessation services is commendable. NHS Borders welcomes the latest tobacco control initiative proposed by the Scottish Executive to raise the age limit for sale of tobacco from 16 years to 18 years of age and acknowledges its potential long-term benefits to the public's health as one component of a comprehensive set of comprehensive which may prevent the initiation of smoking in some young people. There are, however, several points we would like to raise with regard to the draft RIA:

Draft RIA
Section

2.7 The introduction of this draft Order aims to reduce the high proportion of young regular smokers who buy their cigarettes from shops. However, SALSUS reports that 21% of 13 year olds and 14% of 15 year olds buy cigarettes from relatives or friends. A future initiative might include



communications work to target those adults who act as suppliers of tobacco to under-age young people either through selling them cigarettes or buying products on their behalf.

- 3.2 NHS Borders welcomes the Scottish Executive's plans to consult widely on this draft Order and, in particular, the specific consultation with young people including the Scottish Youth Parliament. We would hope that the methods of consultation and young people's groups involved in the process would reflect the prevalence data for smoking in this age group.
- 6.11 We would welcome a clear message confirming the continuation of test purchasing schemes and a more stringent enforcement regime (i.e. prosecution for under-age sales).
- 6.12 We would like to express concern regarding the impact of the draft Order on those young smokers aged 16 and 17 when the change is implemented who continue to smoke and are therefore potentially at risk of discomfort or worse through attempting to buy tobacco products.
- 6.13 Those young people who decide they would like to try to stop smoking will be welcomed by smoking cessation services although the numbers of young people who might like to access service is hard to predict. We ask that the Scottish Executive acknowledge the lack of evidence demonstrated by the young people's cessation pilot studies and the resulting difficulties for NHS Boards in providing appropriate and effective services for young people.
- 9.1 While recognising the potential impact of loss of revenue from tobacco sales on small businesses we would like to raise concern, in the context of childhood obesity and oral health, about the statement that this impact may be minimised by increasing purchasing power for young people in terms of non-tobacco products including confectionary. Delivery of this message requires careful consideration to avoid 'promoting' such expenditure.

Q3

The period of time required between the announcement of the change and its implementation - **we would support Option 2**

Yours Sincerely

01-47

Fiona Doig
Deputy Health Promotion Manager/Smoking Awareness Co-ordinator
On behalf on NHS Borders

Cc Andrew Riley, Director of Public Health Medicine
Alan Mordue, Consultant in Public Health Medicine
David Dalglish, Head of Pharmacy
Cath Young, Health Promotion Manager