



Smith L (Lee-Anne)

01-53

From: Glen J (John)
Sent: 01 March 2007 09:57
To: Smith L (Lee-Anne)
Subject: FW: Consultation of the Draft Smoking Health & Social Care

JOHN GLEN
Tobacco Control Team
Public Health & Substance Misuse Division
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EDINBURGH
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-----Original Message-----

From: Sharon Duncan [mailto:Sharon.Duncan@hnb.scot.nhs.uk]
Sent: 28 February 2007 16:27
To: Glen J (John)
Subject: FW: Consultation of the Draft Smoking Health & Social Care

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Sharon Duncan
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Tel No: 01463 704891
Email: sharon.duncan@hnb.scot.nhs.uk

From: Sharon Duncan
Sent: 28 February 2007 16:25
To: 'johng.glen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk'
Subject: Consultation of the Draft Smoking Health & Social Care
Importance: High

Hi

Please see attached letter and joint response to the above.

Thanks

Sharon

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01-53



John Glen
Scottish Executive Health Department
Tobacco Control Division
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St Andrew's House
Regent Road
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EH1 3DG

Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Date: 28 February 2007

Dear John

RE: CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT SMOKING, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 (VARIATION OF AGE LIMIT FOR SALE OF TOBACCO PURCHASE AND CONSEQUENTIAL MODIFICATION) ORDER 2007.

Please find attached a joint response from NHS Highland and the Highland Council Education, Culture and Support Service on the above consultation.

A signed hard copy is in the post.

Yours sincerely

Donnie MacDonald
Acting Director of Education
The Highland Council

Dr Eric Baijal
Director of Public Health
NHS Highland

CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT SMOKING, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 (VARIATION OF AGE LIMIT FOR SALE OF TOBACCO PURCHASE AND CONSEQUENTIAL MODIFICATION) ORDER 2007.

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CULTURE AND SPORT AND NHS HIGHLAND CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Introduction

This response has been produced following consultation with various groups and individuals across NHS Highland, and the Highland Council Department of Education Culture and Sport. Throughout the consultation period, NHS Highland and The Highland Council have taken the following steps to gain the opinions of individual stakeholders and groups within the organizations' through the following action.

- Distribution of the consultation documents to appropriate individuals and departments within the organizations, including Quality Development, Public Health, Integrated Children's Services, Smoking Cessation Service and Health Promoting Schools service.
- Collation of responses from individuals and groups.

Given the specific issues in relation to Trading Standards and the role they would have in monitoring and enforcing any change in the age of purchase of tobacco products, Highland Council trading standards service is submitting a separate response.

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.

NHS Highland and The Highland Council Department of Education Culture and Sport agree that the age of purchase of tobacco products should be raised to 18. The overwhelming response to this question from those consulted has been yes. The public health message that this would give to young people and the general public we believe would support culture change in relation to smoking. We believe that any media work targeted at young people about any change in the age of purchase of tobacco products should also carry the message about the risks of smoking, the benefits of stopping and direct young people to sources of cessation support.

We agree with the assumptions made in the partial RIA, given the available evidence, and would strongly support evaluation of impact of any change to the age limit for sale of tobacco purchase, and any supporting activity such as media campaigns, enforcement etc. In particular we believe further research on why young people start to smoke, and what would prevent them from starting smoking would support any changes to legislation. We agree that changes to the

age of purchase of tobacco products needs to be done as part of a wider program of tobacco control targeted at young people, and would support additional resource being directed to smoking cessation services, enforcement and evidenced based approaches to prevention. As part of the overall approach to tobacco and young people, we would support further work to look at the role of tobacco and substance misuse, particularly in relation to cannabis use.

The RIA outlines that reduced sales on tobacco products from young people especially for smaller retailers may be offset by increased sales in non tobacco products such as confectionary. In view of the increasing levels of obesity, we need to ensure that we continue to think more widely about the health of young people and ensure that approaches to different health issues are complimentary.

Q2: With this in mind, we would welcome the views on:-

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

Many of the issues requiring to be addressed in for the proposed change in the legal age for purchase preparation are already included within the consultation document or the report 'Towards a Future Without Tobacco'. We believe that issues requiring particular attention are:

Development of appropriate communication and media work that target young people, retailers, parents/carers, professionals working with children and young people and enforcement officers.

Ensure appropriate cessation support is in place in appropriate settings to provide support to young people, and ensure this is appropriately resourced. Particular consideration should be given to hard to reach groups, particularly those not engaged in education, training or work.

Ensure appropriate resources and guidance is available for enforcement of changes in the legal age for purchase

Develop further guidance and materials based on the available evidence to support work currently going on in schools in relation to prevention and smoking cessation for young people.

We understand that children and young people will often obtain tobacco products through a variety of sources such as older friends and family, not necessarily from licensed traders or retailers. Information on where children obtain tobacco products from should be used to consider needs whether and what additional action may be required to further reduce availability and consumption of tobacco products to children and young people.

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The period of time required between the announcement of the change and its implementation.

The preferred option for NHS Highland and the Highland Councils Department of Education Culture and Leisure is option 2: increase the age limit to 18 with a 6-12 month period of transition.