

Smith L (Lee-Anne)

02-60

From: Glen J (John)
Sent: 02 March 2007 14:33
To: Smith L (Lee-Anne)
Subject: FW: Consultation on smoking prevention working group report : towards a future without tobacco



Towards a future without tobac...

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

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

From: Provan, Janette [mailto:janette.provan@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk]
Sent: 02 March 2007 13:46
To: Glen J (John)
Subject: Consultation on smoking prevention working group report : towards a future without tobacco

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

<<Towards a future without tobacco 050207.doc>>
Dorothy C Moir
Director of Public Health

NHS Lanarkshire Confidentiality and Disclaimer Notice

The information contained in this email may be subject to public disclosure under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

This email is intended only for the addressee named above and the contents should not be disclosed to any other person or copies taken. Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the sender and do not necessarily represent those of NHS Lanarkshire (NHSL) unless otherwise specifically stated.

As Internet communications are not secure NHSL do not accept legal responsibility for the contents of this message or responsibility for any change made to this message after the original sender sent it.

We advise you to carry out your own virus check before opening any attachment, as we cannot accept liability for any damage sustained as a result of any software viruses.

If you have received this email in error, please contact the IM&T Helpdesk on 01698 258787 between 08:30 and 17:15 Monday to Friday.

Towards a future without tobacco

Report of the Smoking Prevention Working Group

Comments requested by Health Department: Public Health Division and Substances Misuse by 28/02/07

The report is a succinct précis of the issues and opportunities for a smoke free Scotland. It is positive that the major focus is on the current patterns of smoking by young people and of the need for prevention to stop them starting to smoke but perhaps it is a little light on other opportunities for action. Comments on each chapter and recommendations are as follows.

Chapter 1 Why do some people become smokers and how can this be prevented?

Clear statement of the issues and acknowledgement of the relevance of the social and cultural environment vis-à-vis smoking and young people.

Chapter 2 Current patterns and trends in smoking young people in Scotland

Rates of smoking across Scotland and impact of inequalities, disadvantages etc noted with strong focus on the links between smoking and alcohol, drugs and other risk behaviours. The gaps in the data for minority ethnic groups in general also feature. Although Scotland is below the European average %'s for weekly smokers for both boys and girls (at 15 years), and the rates for boys has declined since 1998 there is no place for complacency as average age of onset for both daily and weekly smoking for girls compared to boys is the lowest in Europe.

The factors that are associated with smoking by young people; from having parents, and friends who smoke, to lowered levels of parental supervision, truancy and juvenile offending are all given.

A little more weight could be focussed on turning these negative associations and rephrasing them publicly to the positive impacts that help to prevent smoking could be beneficial: Focus on the positive to promote non-smoking more than deep analysis of the factors that encourage/facilitate smoking.

Chapter 3 Sources, availability and marketing of cigarettes to young people

Despite the legislation in this area there is no doubt that the tobacco companies have, by various means, not stopped their advertising/marketing of tobacco brands. This chapter notes actions and research in this arena across the world and notes the lack of consistent clear outcomes to guide current and future direction.

Chapter 4 Evidence for the effectiveness of smoking prevention programmes

The many and varied approaches are evaluated here with the conclusion that a comprehensive multi-stranded state wide approach is the best option, although this will take time to achieve the desired outcomes. Whatever is done has to be of sufficient depth and duration with adequate resourcing and done with rigor. Small piece meal

attempts make little impact especially if they fail to take into account the linked factors of family and social circumstances vis-à-vis smoking and young people.

Chapter 5 The current policy context and smoking prevention initiatives in Scotland

Competently covered.

Chapter 6 Implications of the research evidence and recent experience in Scotland for future preventive initiatives

Competent conclusions to the report

Recommendations

Comments on 31 recommendations in the report on pages 7-10 are as follows:

Targets

- 1 Reasonable
- 2 Slightly challenging but possible if recommendation 1 and all other actions occur.
- 3 More action, not more research in this area is required.
- 4 reasonable

Reducing Availability

- 5 Strongly support
- 6 Strongly support
- 7 Strongly support
- 8 Strongly support
- 9 Strongly support
- 10 Reject, take action now to remove sale of packs of ten.
- 11 Do not support
- 12 Strongly support
- 13 Strongly support
- 14 Strongly support
- 15 Strongly support

- 16 Strongly support
- 17 Support
- 18 Should be stronger recommendation in this area
- 19 Support

Discouraging young people to smoke

- 20 Support, particularly if the message is positive and powerful to support non-smoking
- 21 Weakly support. Too much focus on 'research' need more evidence base/action .
- 22 Support
- 23 Strongly support: coherent consistent 'brief interventions' approach
- 24 Strongly support: promotes positive health and life enhancing perspective.
- 25 Support
- 26 Strongly support see comments on 20 and 24 as well.
- 27 No, enough research
- 28 Strongly support but only if it focuses on positive aspects of non-smoking
- 29 Support

Making Thing Happen

- 30 Strongly support, suggest use of an open internet style in interaction with young people to allow many rather than the few to do so.
- 31 Strongly support

Can be sent under whatever delineation you consider appropriate to Mary Cuthbert as requested.

Note that a declaration is required to accompany the response.