



The Association of Directors of Public Health

Statement on a tobacco free NHS: achieving a step change

ADPH welcomes the call from Public Health England to NHS Trust Chief Executives to move towards a tobacco-free NHS.

The Association of Directors of Public Health has welcomed a letter, sent from Public Health England, calling on NHS Trust Chief Executives to tackle smoking in hospitals. A new national financial incentive (CQUIN), 'Preventing ill health from risky behaviours – alcohol and tobacco' requires NHS Trusts to identify and record the smoking status of all inpatients, and to provide smokers with advice and an offer of support and referral.

The development of new NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plans provides extra impetus for action on smoking. Commitment to a smoke-free NHS should include both the eradication of smoking from NHS estates and the offer to those who are in hospital of support to quit smoking.

ADPH President Dr Andrew Furber said:

"The NHS has a vital role to play in helping patients to quit smoking and supporting staff and hospital visitors to stay smoke-free.

By doing so hospitals and clinics will send an important message to local communities. Smoking remains our leading cause of preventable ill health and the NHS will play its part in ensuring the next generation grows up in a smoke-free society."

Nicola Close, Chief Executive of ADPH, said:

"I am delighted to see this call for NHS Trusts to support a tobacco free environment by proactively supporting patients in reducing dependence on smoking."

ENDS

Further information

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DPH) in the UK.

It seeks to improve and protect the health of the population through collating and presenting the views of DsPH; advising on public health policy and legislation at a local, regional, national and international level; facilitating a support network for DsPH; and providing opportunities for DsPH to develop professional practice.

The Association has a rich heritage, its origins dating back more than 160 years. It is a collaborative organisation working in partnership with others to maximise the voice for public health.

www.adph.org.uk

Association of Directors of Public Health

November 2016