

## Tobacco

### INTRODUCTION

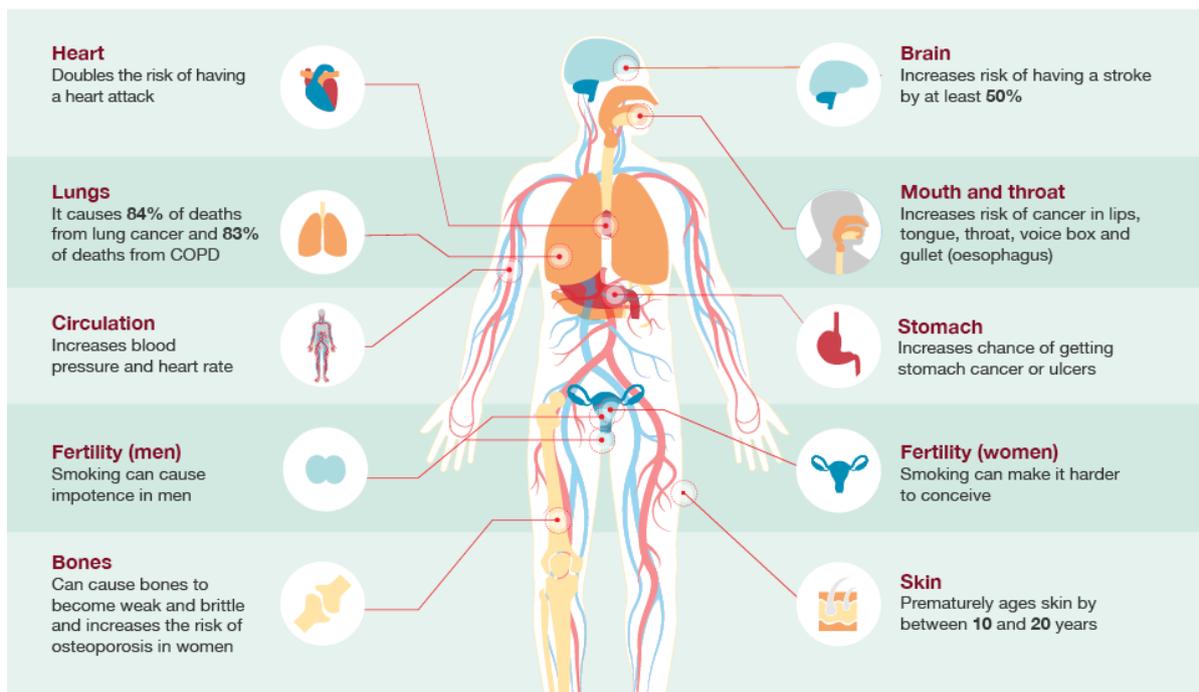
Smoking is the leading cause of preventable illness and premature death in England causing harm in many parts of the body and accounting for 1 in 6 of all deaths in England.

There are many medical conditions (Figure 1 below) associated with or aggravated by smoking, which may not be fatal but still cause years of debilitating illness.<sup>1</sup>

### SMOKING HARM TO THE BODY

Figure 1: Smoking harm to the body

#### How smoking harms the body



**Source:** *Health matters: tobacco standard packs, Public Health England, 2016.*

The list of conditions includes:<sup>2</sup>

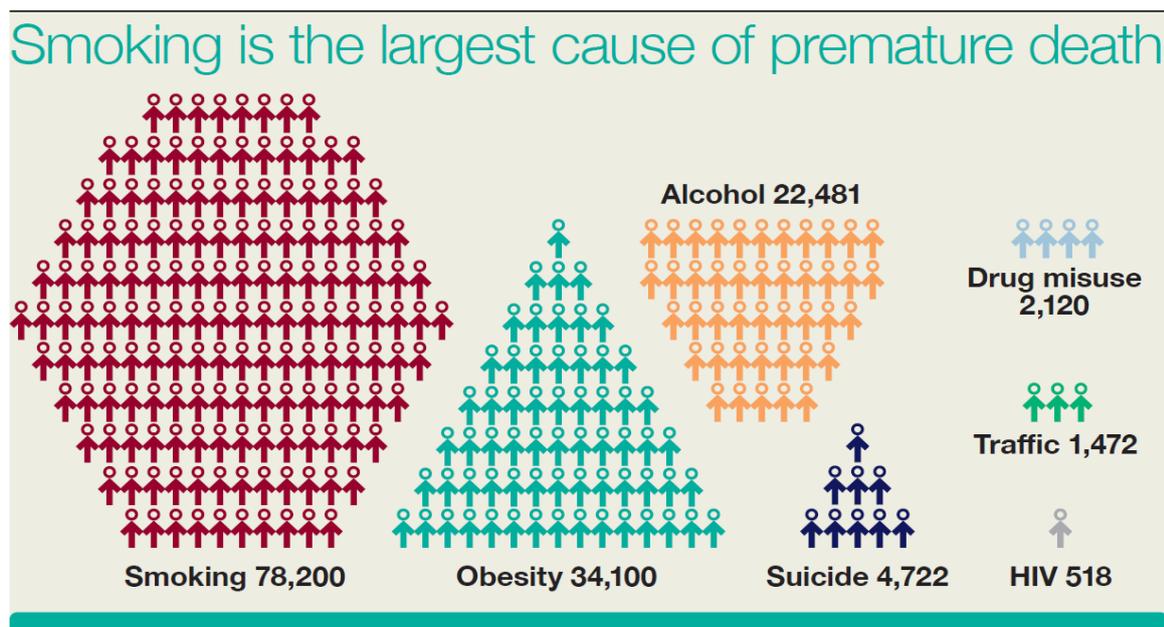
- Heart and circulation: Angina, Buerger's Disease (severe circulatory disease), Peripheral vascular disease.
- Respiratory: Asthma, Common cold, Chronic rhinitis (inflammation of nose), Influenza, Tuberculosis.

- Stomach/digestive system: Colon polyps, Crohn’s disease (chronic inflamed bowel), Duodenal ulcer, Stomach ulcer.
- Mouth: Acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis (gum disease), Tooth loss, Tooth discolouration.
- Ligaments, muscles and bones: Ligament, tendon and muscle injuries, Neck and back pain, Osteoporosis (in both sexes), Rheumatoid arthritis (in heavy smokers).
- Eyes: Cataract, Macular degeneration, Nystagmus (abnormal eye movements), Optic neuropathy (loss of vision), Ocular histoplasmosis (fungal eye infection), Tobacco Amblyopia (loss of vision), Diabetic retinopathy, Optic neuritis.
- Skin: Psoriasis, Skin wrinkling.
- Reproductive functions: Female fertility (30% lower), Menopause (onset 1.74 years earlier on average), Male fertility (Impotence, Reduced sperm count and motility, sperm less able to penetrate the ovum, increased shape abnormalities).
- Other: Depression, Hearing loss, Multiple sclerosis, Type 2 Diabetes.

## SMOKING AND DEATH

Despite the decline in smoking, about 6.5 million adults in England still smoke<sup>3</sup> and tobacco use remains the single greatest cause of preventable deaths in England – killing approximately 80,000 people per year. Smoking can be attributed to around 16% of all deaths. This is greater than the combined total of preventable deaths caused by obesity, alcohol, suicide, traffic accidents, illegal drugs and HIV infections.<sup>4</sup>

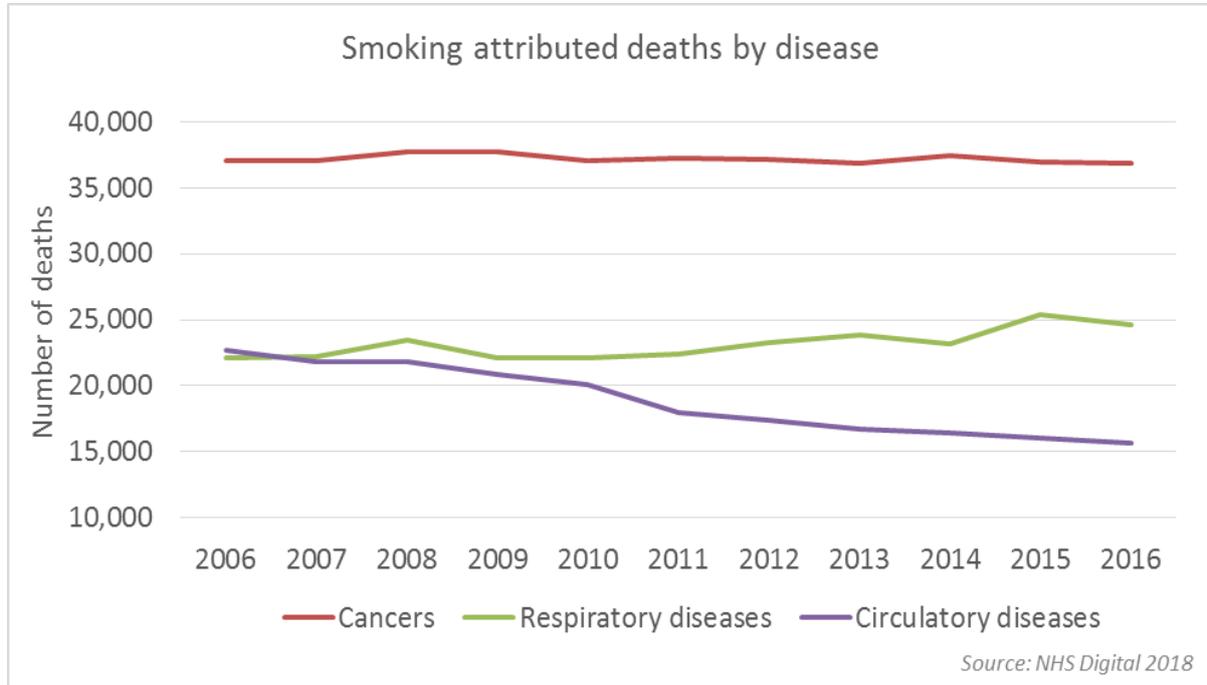
Figure 2: Premature death by cause



**Source:** *Comprehensive local tobacco control: Why invest?* Public Health England. 2016.

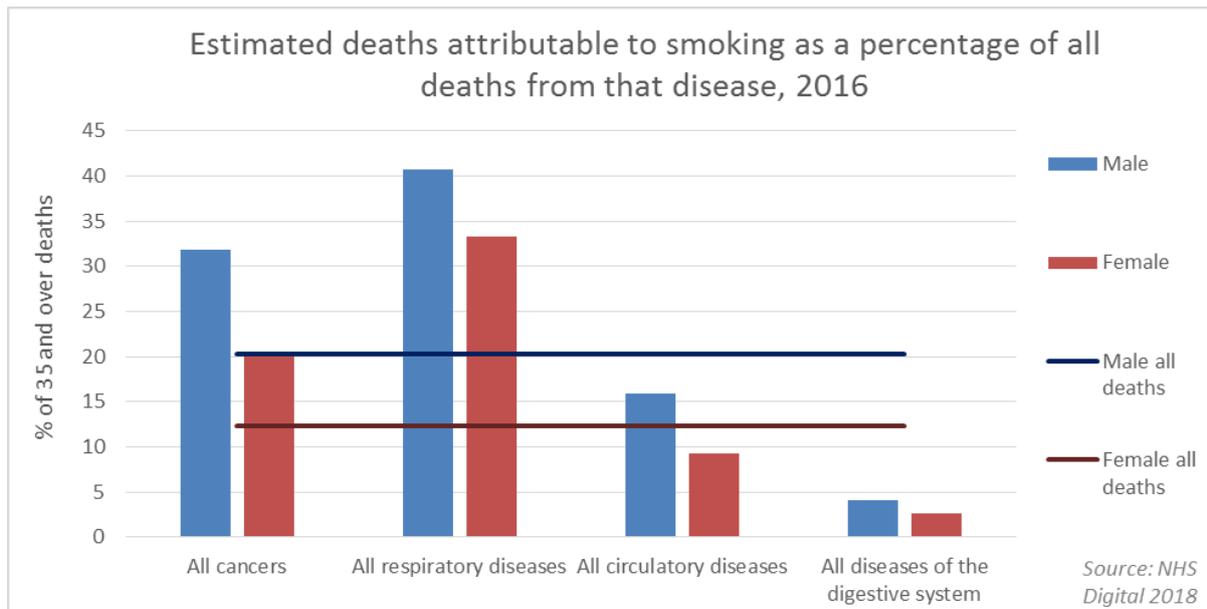
One in two regular smokers is killed by tobacco and half of them will die before the age of 70, losing an average 10 years of life.<sup>5</sup>

Figure 3: Trend of estimated deaths attributed to smoking by disease, 2007-2017, England



**Data:** NHS Digital: Statistics on Smoking, 2018

Figure 4: Estimated deaths attributed to smoking as a percentage of all deaths from that disease, 2016 (35 and over, by gender), England.



**Data:** NHS Digital: Statistics on Smoking, 2018

Overall 16% of all deaths for 35 and overs are attributed to smoking, Figure 4 (below) shows this differs by disease and gender. The proportion of smoking attributed deaths for respiratory diseases (37%) and cancers (26%) is higher than circulatory diseases (13%) and diseases of the digestive system (3%). A larger proportion of deaths among men than women were attributable to smoking, with an estimated 20% (47,500) of all deaths among men aged 35 and over being attributable to smoking. This compares with 12% (30,400) of all deaths among women.<sup>6</sup>

Cancers of the trachea, lung, bronchus, and chronic airway obstruction account for over 40,000 smoking attributed deaths. The proportion of deaths for these diseases attributed to smoking are 79% and 77% respectively. Table 1 (below) shows the full list of deaths and smoking attributed deaths among adults aged 35 and over in England by disease.<sup>6</sup>

**Table 1:** International Classification of Diseases (ICD10) diagnoses against observed and attributable deaths (adults aged 35 and over), number and proportion, England.

Cause of death	Total		
	Observed deaths	Attributable number	Attributable percentage
<b>All deaths</b>	481,280	77,900	16
<b>All cancers</b>	138,854	36,800	27
<b>All respiratory diseases</b>	66,684	24,600	37
<b>All circulatory diseases</b>	124,016	15,700	13
<b>All diseases of the digestive system</b>	23,148	800	3
<b>All deaths which can be caused by smoking</b>	<b>236,517</b>	<b>77,900</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Cancers which can be caused by smoking</b>	<b>68,433</b>	<b>36,800</b>	<b>54</b>
Trachea, Lung, Bronchus	28,535	22,500	79
Upper Respiratory Sites	2,396	1,500	63
Larynx	670	500	75
Oesophagus	6,520	4,200	64
Cervical	636	100	16
Bladder	4,404	1,700	39
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	3,768	900	24
Stomach	3,627	700	19
Pancreas	7,811	1,700	22
Unspecified site	7,764	2,600	33
Myeloid Leukaemia	2,302	400	17
<b>Respiratory diseases which can be caused by smoking</b>	<b>51,350</b>	<b>24,600</b>	<b>48</b>

Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease	1,241	1,100	89
Chronic Airway Obstruction	25,108	19,300	77
Pneumonia, Influenza	25,001	4,300	17
<b>Circulatory diseases which can be caused by smoking</b>	<b>115,002</b>	<b>15,700</b>	<b>14</b>
Other Heart Disease	23,512	2,900	12
Ischaemic Heart Disease	53,568	7,200	13
Other Arterial Disease	2,634	400	15
Cerebrovascular Disease	30,319	2,500	8
Aortic Aneurysm	4,912	2,800	57
Atherosclerosis	57	0	0
<b>Diseases of the digestive system which can be caused by smoking</b>	<b>1,732</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>46</b>
Stomach / Duodenal Ulcer	1,732	800	46

**Data:** NHS Digital: Statistics on Smoking, 2018

## WHO'S AT RISK AND WHY?

Groups more likely to smoke include men, adults aged 20-34, White and Mixed ethnic groups, routine and manual workers and those with a poor mental wellbeing.

## SMOKING PREVALENCE IN ENGLAND

An estimated 14.9% of the adult population (18+) in England smoke, this is about 6.5 million adults. The data shows that levels of smoking vary across different population groups. Males (17%) are more likely to smoke than females (13%). Adults aged 25-34 (20%) are most likely to smoke and those aged 65 and over are least likely to smoke (8%). Prevalence since 2011 has fallen most in younger age groups.<sup>3</sup>

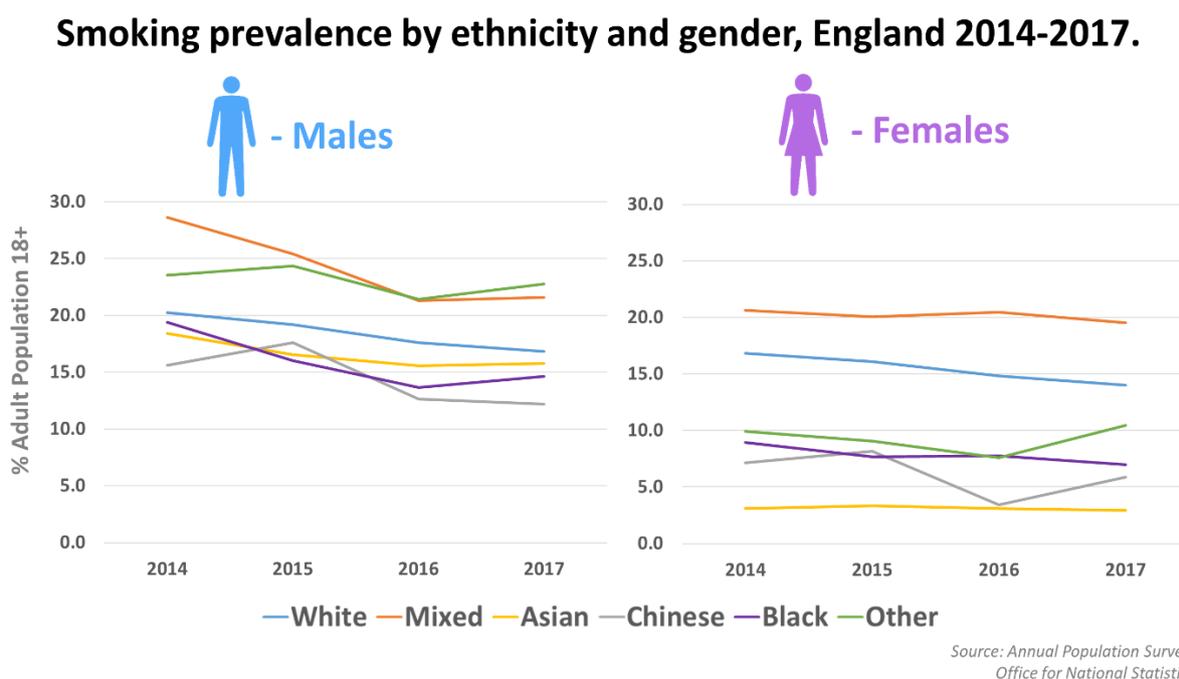
Smoking prevalence for routine and manual workers (26%) is higher compared to 1 in 10 people (10%) in managerial and professional occupations. The government aim to reduce this inequality gap in smoking prevalence.<sup>7</sup>

'Two adult smokers with a 20-a-day habit are likely to spend over £6,000 per year on cigarettes. Workers in routine and manual jobs are twice as likely to smoke as those in managerial and professional roles. Poorer smokers spend five times as much of their weekly household budget on smoking as richer smokers.'<sup>8</sup>

Figure 5 below shows smoking prevalence by ethnicity and gender. It identifies Mixed Heritage (20.5%) and White (15.4%) communities with a higher smoking prevalence. Asian males (15.8%) and Other ethnicity males (22.8%) are also amongst those with a high smoking prevalence.

‘Smoking also varies greatly for some ethnic minority groups and those from the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual community who remain far more likely to smoke than the general population..’<sup>2</sup>

Figure 5: Smoking prevalence by ethnicity and gender, England



**Data:** Annual Population Survey for England, 2018

Reducing smoking in pregnancy is another key national objective, 10.8% of pregnant women were known to be smokers at the time of delivery during 2017/18. This compares to 10.5% for the previous year (2016/17), and is down from 13.6% in 2010/11.

‘Smoking during pregnancy is a major health inequality, with prevalence varying significantly across communities and social groups. Smoking prevalence among pregnant women in more disadvantaged groups and those aged under 20 remains considerably higher than in older and more affluent groups... meaning those from lower socio-economic groups are at a much greater risk of complications during and after pregnancy. Children who grow up with a smoking parent are also more likely to become smokers themselves, further perpetuating the cycle of inequality and affecting their life chances.’<sup>7</sup>

## THE LEVEL OF NEED IN THE POPULATION

### SMOKING PREVALENCE IN LEICESTER

National data reveals a local smoking prevalence estimate of 17.7% for Leicester, this is statistically similar to the national rate (14.9%). Smoking prevalence recorded for Leicester males (21.9%) is significantly higher than England males (16.8%). Smoking prevalence for Leicester females (13.9%) is similar to England females (13.0%).<sup>3</sup>

Local data from the Leicester Health and Wellbeing Survey 2018<sup>9</sup> estimates 19.6% of the Leicester 16+ population are current smokers. This is higher than nationally produced estimates for Leicester. Estimates can also be calculated by age, gender and ethnicity and compared against the previous Health and Wellbeing Survey in 2015<sup>10</sup> (see table 2 below).

**Table 2: Smoking prevalence estimates in Leicester 2015/2018**

Category		Smoking Prevalence 2015	Smoking Prevalence 2018
<b>Overall</b>	All	21.3%	19.6%
<b>Gender</b>	Males	23.5%	21.9%
	Females	19.1%	17.3%
<b>Age</b>	16-24	19.2%	18.2%
	25-34	27.3%	25.5%
	35-44	21.0%	22.1%
	45-54	24.4%	19.2%
	55-64	19.6%	20.6%
	65+	14.5%	12.1%
<b>Ethnic Group</b>	White British	28.1%	26.6%
	White other	31.8%	32.0%
	Asian British	11.8%	10.6%
	Black British	12.8%	9.8%
	Mixed heritage	32.4%	31.7%
<b>Deprivation</b>	Most deprived	29.0%	26.9%
	Least Deprived	12.6%	15.0%
<b>Significantly higher than Leicester</b>		<b>Significantly lower than Leicester</b>	

*Data: Leicester Health and Wellbeing Survey 2015 and 2018*

### PREVALENCE BY AREA

Smoking prevalence varies across different communities. The Leicester Health and Wellbeing Surveys, reveal that smoking prevalence is higher in areas to the west of the city. The west is known to have a higher White population and areas of high deprivation. Smoking prevalence is lower to the east of the city where there are predominantly South Asian communities.<sup>9</sup>

'Rich smokers have very similar life expectancy to poor smokers, and poor non-smokers live longer than rich smokers, showing that smoking not social status is the greatest cause of health inequalities....[however] More people in disadvantaged communities smoke, where smoking is more socially acceptable. Poorer smokers are usually more addicted and smoke more each day. On average all smokers make similar numbers of quit attempts each year but, well-off smokers are much more likely to succeed.'<sup>11</sup>

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## PREVALENCE AMONG RISK GROUPS

- **Smoking in pregnancy**

Smoking prevalence in Leicester and nationally has seen a year on year decline since 2012/13.<sup>13</sup> The prevalence of smoking during pregnancy in Leicester in 2017/18 is 11.6% which is higher than the national rate of 10.8% and a rise from 2016/17 (10.2%).

- **Smoking amongst those with under 16s in household**

In 2018, 18% of those with children under 16 in the household currently smoke. There has been a decline since 2015.

- **Smoking among routine and manual workers**

The prevalence of smoking among routine and manual workers in Leicester in 2017 was 24.2%, which is similar to the national rate of 25.7%.<sup>3</sup>

- **Smoking among those with a Poor Mental Wellbeing**

The Leicester Health and Wellbeing Survey records a significantly higher rate of smoking amongst those with a poor mental wellbeing (31.5%).

People with a mental health condition die on average 10 to 20 years earlier than the general population. It is estimated that a third of all cigarettes smoked in England are smoked by people with a mental health condition. Smoking among this population has changed little, if at all, over the past 20 years and in 2014/15, smoking prevalence among people with a serious mental illness was 40.5%.

Nationally around 80% of prisoners smoke compared with 15.5% in the general population, with similar levels recorded across the offender journey in police custody and community supervision where data are available. This high rate of smoking causes health problems to the smokers themselves and to non-smokers who are exposed to their tobacco smoke. The offender population has a high prevalence of poor mental health and other substance misuse, and offenders are predominantly from disadvantaged backgrounds, all of which are associated with elevated smoking prevalence. Offenders who smoke and those exposed to this smoke experience a marked increase in health inequalities.<sup>8</sup>

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## USE OF OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN LEICESTER

The Leicester Health and Wellbeing Survey 2018 reported that 2% of the 16+ population use Sheesha or Hookah. These products were more popular amongst younger residents, aged 16-34 (4%), Black and minority ethnic residents (3%) Muslim residents (5%). A smaller minority of residents reported using other tobacco products such as cigars, paan, gutka and bidi.

Against a background of apparent increase in the number and venues of waterpipe smoking (WPS) and in the absence of any national or local policy, Leicester Tobacco Control Steering Group produced evidence-based advice for the general public on WPS.<sup>12</sup>

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## SMOKING BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES IN LEICESTER<sup>9</sup>

- 73% of smokers have tried to quit and of these, the following services/aids had been used: E-cigarettes/vaping (27%), Nicotine replacement products (26%), STOP smoking service (11%), medication prescribed by your GP (9%). Over a third (37%), did not try using any service for their quit attempt.
- The majority of smokers (59%) wanted to give up smoking and 36% did not. 4% of smokers did not know whether they wanted to quit smoking or continue.
- Among those who want to quit smoking in the next 6 months, many did not use any aid (28%), others used nicotine replacement products (19%), e-cigarettes (18%), and 5% used other methods.
- In 2010, 31% of Leicester residents allowed smoking in their home – this has more than halved in 2018 to 15%.

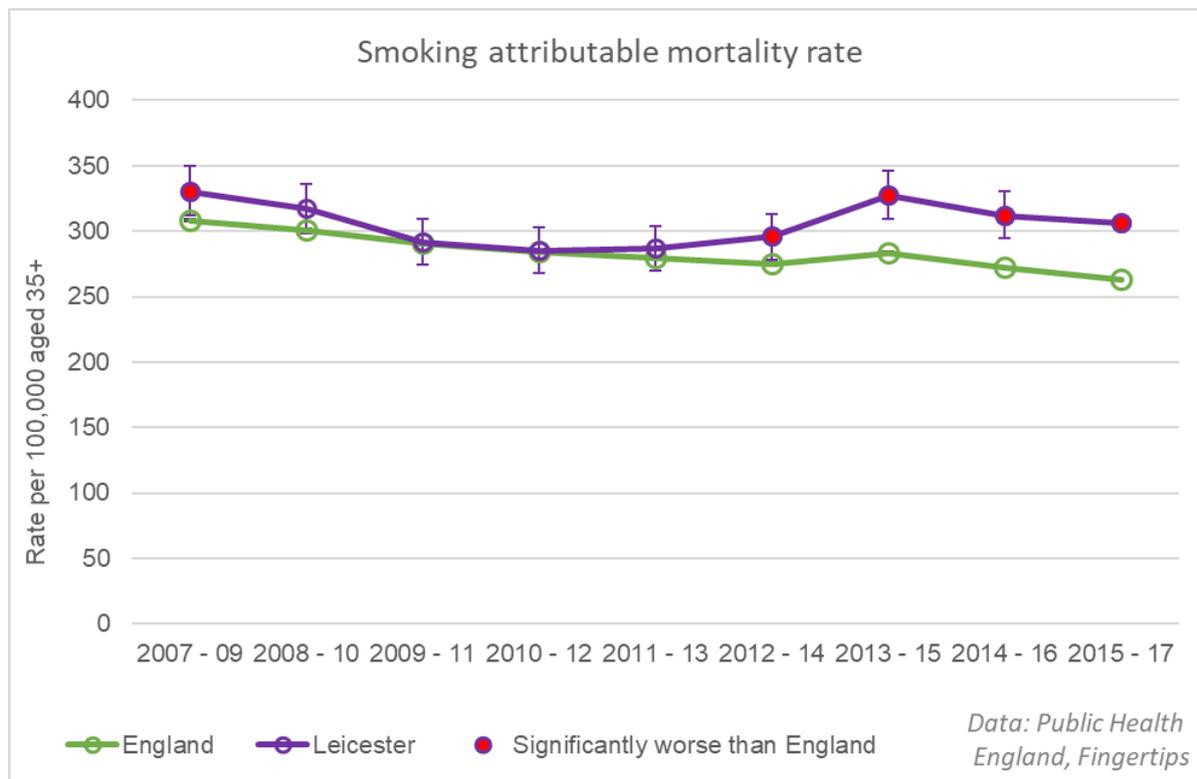
'One of the most effective ways to reduce the number of young people smoking is to reduce the number of adults who smoke. We know that children are heavily influenced by adult role models who smoke: in 2014, 82% of pupils who regularly smoked reported having a family member who smoked. Continuing to encourage adult smokers to quit must therefore remain an important part of reducing prevalence amongst the young, and achieving a smokefree generation.'<sup>7</sup>

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## SMOKING RELATED DEATHS AND HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Leicester has an estimated 312 smoking attributed deaths per 100,000 population compared to a national average of 272.<sup>13</sup> Figure 6 (below) shows the rate of smoking attributable mortality in Leicester has been significantly higher than England since 2012-14.

Figure 6: Smoking attributable mortality 2007 - 2017



**Data:** PHE – Local tobacco control profiles, July 2018

In Leicester there are, on average, over 400 deaths per year attributable to smoking. The majority of these are due to lung cancer, chronic airway obstruction and ischaemic (coronary) heart disease. Table 3 shows that smoking attributable deaths from heart disease, deaths from oral cancer and deaths from COPD in Leicester are significantly higher than the national rate.<sup>13</sup>

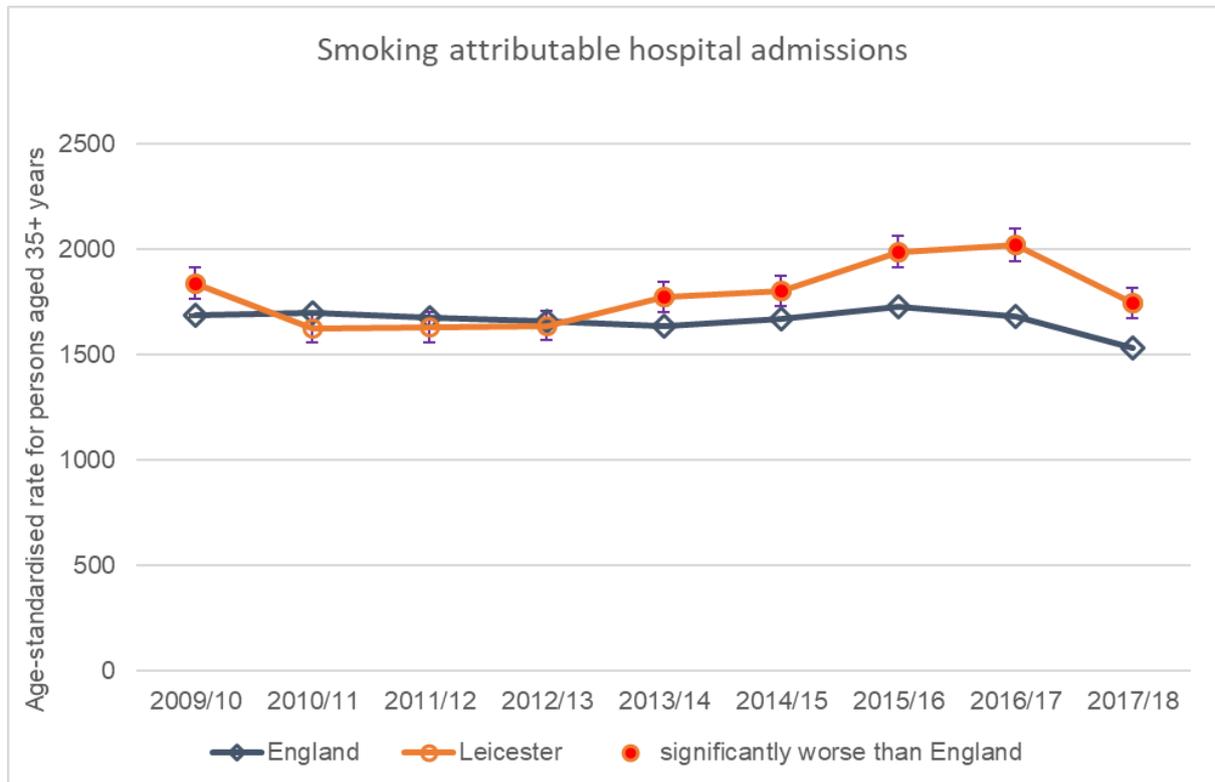
**Table 3: Smoking attributable mortality rates (directly age-standardised rates per 100,000 2015-2017)**

Indicator	Age	Leicester average deaths per year	Leicester rate	England rate
Smoking attributable mortality	35+ years	408	305.8	262.6
Smoking attributable deaths from heart disease	35+ years	51	36.0	24.7
Smoking attributable deaths from stroke	35+ years	15	11.1	8.2
Deaths from lung cancer	All ages	135	61.3	56.3
Deaths from oral cancer	All ages	21	9.0	4.6
Deaths from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	All ages	134	61.6	52.7

**Data:** Local Tobacco Control Profiles, July 2018

The rate of smoking attributable hospital admissions in Leicester is significantly higher than the national rate, and is equivalent to over 2,800 admissions per year. Figure 7 (below) displays the smoking attributable hospital admissions per 100,000 of the population (35+).

Figure 7: Smoking attributable hospital admissions 2009 - 2017



**Data:** PHE – Local tobacco control profiles, July 2018

Smoking increases risk of cancers and is heavily linked to lung cancer, oral cancer and oesophageal cancer. Registrations for lung cancer and oral cancer in Leicester are significantly higher than England.

Figure 8: Age-standardised registration rate for cancers per 100,000 population, 2014-16



**Data:** PHE – Local health, July 2018

## CURRENT SERVICES IN RELATION TO NEED

### SUPPORTING PEOPLE TO STOP SMOKING SUCCESSFULLY

The *Stop* smoking service is the local provider in Leicester. It offers all smokers in Leicester access to a trained advisor, who can offer behavioural support alongside a stop smoking medication of the person’s choice. Smoking cessation clinics are run in a number of venues across the city including: pharmacies, GP practices, and community venues; clustering where the need is greatest. Smokers who are motivated to quit, attend the most convenient venue and formulate a quit plan with their advisor.

Nearly 3,000 smokers accessed the *Stop* Smoking service in 2017/18 to set a quit date and half of these were helped to stop smoking.<sup>14</sup> Government guidelines<sup>15</sup> recommend that at least 5% of smokers in the population should be accessing a smoking cessation service each year. Regular health equity audits of the *Stop* Smoking service are conducted to ensure that it is accessed by those people living in communities with high smoking prevalence. The most recent audits show that local Leicester *Stop* smoking services are annually engaging more than 5% of the local smoking population.

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## SUPPORTING PREGNANT SMOKERS AND THOSE WITH INFANTS TO STOP SMOKING

*Stop* delivers training to midwives and other workers in contact with pregnant women who smoke (for example, in Children's Centres), to strengthen the care pathway (an opt-out approach) for any woman who needs to stop smoking while pregnant, and her family.

Data for smoking at time of delivery shows an improving trend in Leicester to 2016/17 with statistically similar percentages to the England average of 10.7%.<sup>13</sup> However there has been an increase in 2017/18 to 11.6%. In 2017/18, 546 referrals were made to *Stop* from maternity services, 175 smokers set a quit date and 79 successfully quit at 4 weeks. 45% success rate is lower than the average for the service as a whole, but the client group is harder to engage.<sup>14</sup>

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## PREVENTING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM TAKING UP SMOKING

Tobacco control has a preventative effect among young people, as it reduces the number of smoking role models and denormalises smoking in the world in which they grow up. Youth targeted work varies significantly in cost and effectiveness. Low cost interventions such as supporting a school smokefree policy and educational content have been implemented; but engagement with schools varies. High cost peer led interventions are not delivered locally, as reducing smoking in the community clinics is thought to have a greater preventative effect.

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## TACKLING CHEAP AND ILLICIT TOBACCO

This is delivered by Leicester City Council's business regulation department. This activity restricts availability of cheap and illegal tobacco, which often undermines the effect of price rises and health warnings. Activities include surveillance of local markets in illicit sales and sharing of intelligence on supply chains, in collaboration with HMRC and police. Regulation of tobacco products is intelligence-led and involves under age test purchasing and enforcement of the health warning requirements on retail sales and supplies.

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## TOBACCO HARM REDUCTION

People who are not ready or are unwilling or unable to stop smoking in one step, are offered a harm-reduction approach, as recommended by NICE guidance. This involves long term management of withdrawal and nicotine use beyond the treatment period.

Leicester was the first city nationally to become e-cigarette friendly, launched on no-smoking day March 2014. This welcomed smokers to use e-cigarettes to stop smoking. Results showed 20% improvement in stop smoking for those using e-cigarettes on their own or in combination with nicotine replacement therapy. Leicester is part of large scale research trial looking at the comparative effectiveness of nicotine replacement therapy and e-cigarettes.

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## SMOKE-FREE HOMES AND CARS

‘Step Right Out’ is an intervention programme which aims to raise awareness about the dangers of second-hand smoke and encourage people to sign up to a ‘Step Right Out’ pledge to keep their home and car smoke-free. The number of Step Right Out pledges for Leicester City currently stands at 10,554. On average, 21% of people who sign the pledge, also request support to stop smoking.<sup>13</sup>

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## SECONDARY CARE (ACUTE AND MENTAL HEALTH)

University Hospitals of Leicester has been funded for enhanced training to identify life-long smokers (particularly with cardiac and respiratory diseases) and offer referral to *Stop* smoking services. *Stop* runs clinics at every hospital site for patients, staff and general public.

As part of the development of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust’s Smoke-free Strategy, *Stop* has set up a comprehensive training programme for staff, especially in mental health wards, and supports the delivery of smoking cessation treatments on hospital wards.

**‘People with a mental health condition are just as likely to want to stop smoking as those without, but are more likely to be heavily addicted to smoking and more likely to anticipate difficulty stopping smoking. There is an urgent need to address the widening inequalities which remain from stubbornly high smoking rates among this population. Routine identification of smokers in mental health services with systematic offers of evidence-based support, reflective of NICE guidance PH48, is essential to reducing this gap.’<sup>8</sup>**

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## SMOKELESS TOBACCO

The *Stop* service has the expertise to deliver treatment for smokeless tobacco in accordance with NICE guidance. Demand is low in comparison to cigarette smoking. The service is marketed in areas where smokeless tobacco use is likely to be more prevalent.

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## MARKETING AND AWARENESS

*Stop* promotes its services through face-to-face networks, training, briefing customer services, Making Every Contact Count, which involves training staff in public service organisations in Brief Interventions ‘Ask, Advise, Act’. It produces clear, coherent and tested

printed material, makes use of local and national media and supports and uses national campaigns, for example, “Stoptober”.

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## TOBACCO CONTROL COORDINATION

Using national policy, scientific evidence and local data, the local programme is coordinated via the Tobacco Control Coordination Group. The group meets quarterly and monitors historic and planned activity across all themes highlighted above.

## PROJECTED SERVICES USE AND OUTCOMES IN 3-5 YEARS AND 5-10 YEARS

Nationally and locally the number of people accessing stop smoking services has steadily fallen since its peak in 2011/12. People accessing the service in Leicester has fallen from over 6000 in 2011/12 to about 3000 in 2017/18. Local quit rates have remained consistent at around 50% indicating that the quality and effectiveness of services remains high.<sup>12</sup>

It has been suggested that this reduction is due to a shift in the smoking landscape, however as there are still almost seven million smokers in England,<sup>3</sup> local stop smoking services remain an important and effective clinical intervention, particularly among those experiencing health inequalities and for vulnerable groups. The following factors have contributed to the decrease:

- The temporary withdrawal of national mass media campaigns and then a reformulation which placed less of an emphasis on stimulating uptake of local stop smoking services
- The increasing use of e-cigarettes by smokers who are trying to stop or cut down
- The impact of transition with public health moving to local authorities and changes in commissioning arrangements for stop smoking services

Figures 9a and 9b (below) show the national trend is broadly mirrored in Leicester, although the decline has been slightly less locally than the England average.

Figure 9a: Numbers setting a quit date per 100,000 smokers 2013-2018

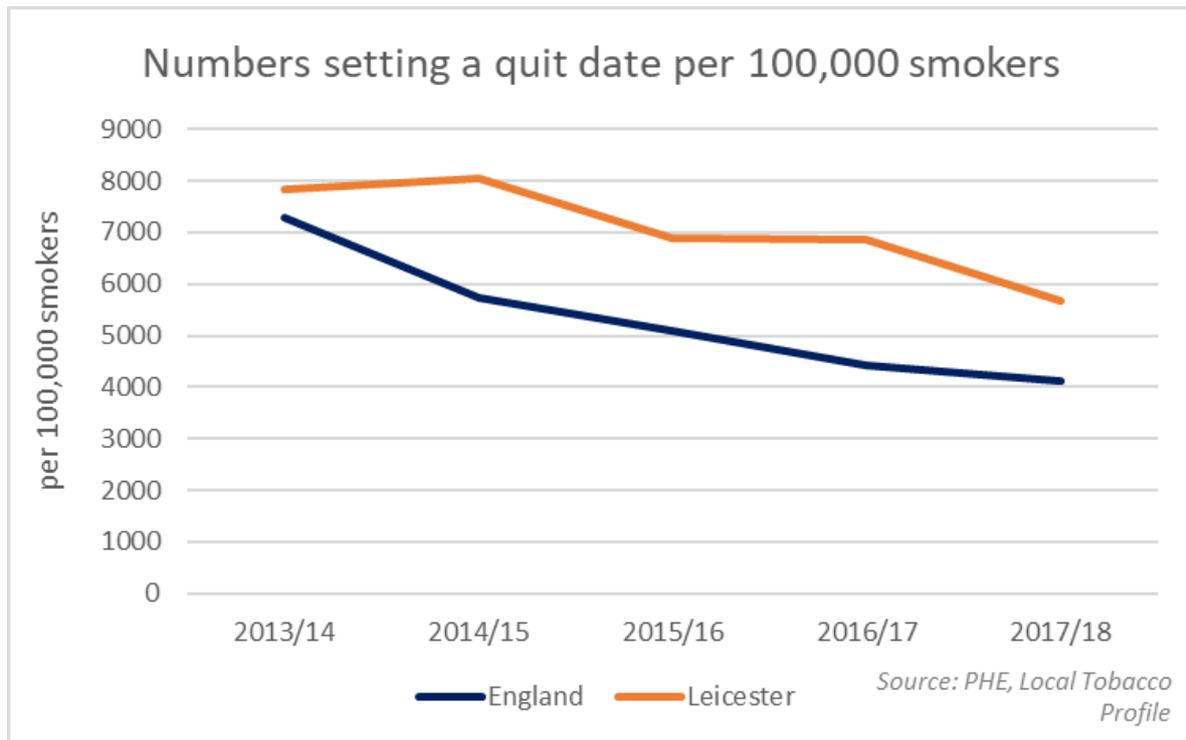
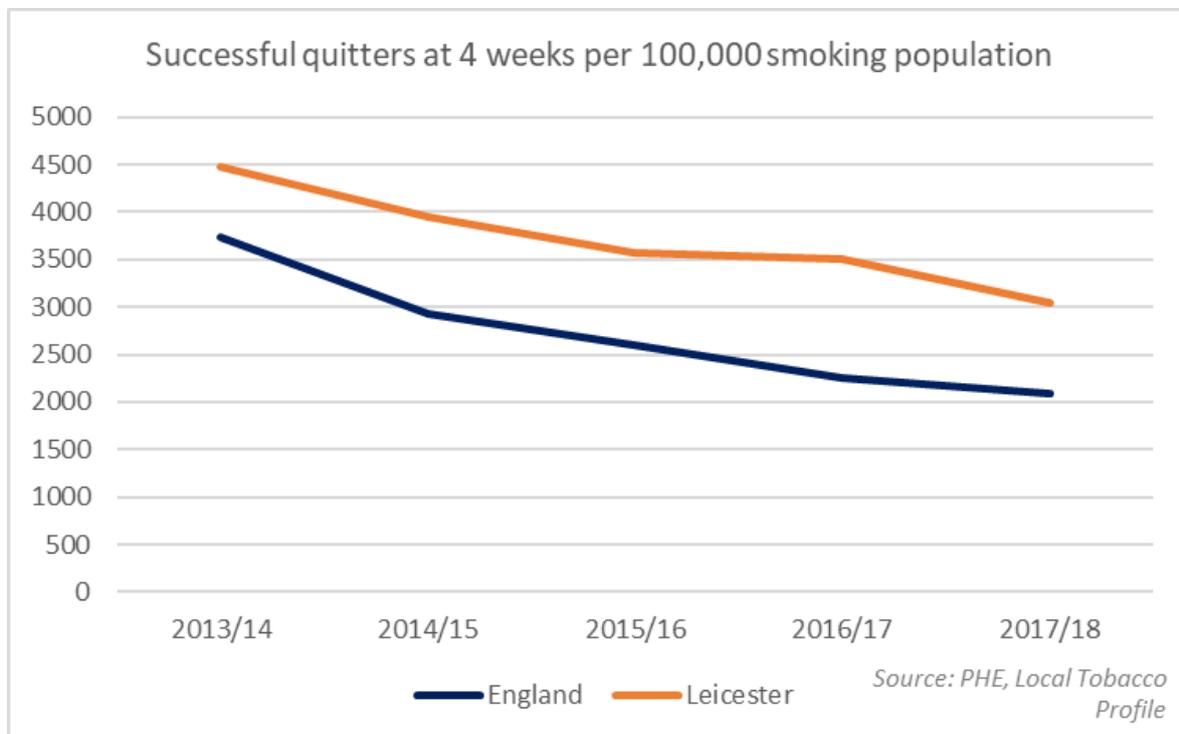


Figure 9b: Number successfully quit per 100,000 smoking population aged 16+ 2013-2018



**Data:** Public Health England Local Tobacco Profiles: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/tobacco-control>

Communications and marketing effective incentives and methods to quit smoking to the local population, remains an important part of stimulating quit attempts. Encouraging people to quit via the stop smoking service or other proven methods, which fit their needs, remains a priority. It is known that smoking prevalence varies across the city and services will therefore need to be concentrated in areas that are most accessible for those groups with a higher than average smoking prevalence.

## UNMET NEEDS AND SERVICE GAPS

As the rate of smoking falls, those who still smoke are more entrenched in tobacco dependency. Therefore, success rates of engagement and subsequent quitting are likely to be lower and harder to obtain. Engaging with these populations requires sustained and concerted efforts to reduce health inequalities.

Uptake of the services by different population groups is regularly reviewed and new approaches sought to promote and encourage use of *Stop* smoking services. Niche tobacco products, such as smokeless tobacco and waterpipe smoking, remains a minority activity in comparison to cigarette smoking. We will continue to monitor use in relation to these products and prioritise efforts according to the risks from all types of tobacco use in Leicester.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMISSIONERS

The local Labour Party manifesto<sup>16</sup> states the following:

‘We will continue to invest in Leicester’s *Stop* Smoking Service. This service is now part of the City Council and will build links with other council services to improve access and take-up. We have called on the Government to introduce standardised cigarette packing to help bolster local efforts to support people who want to quit. Our priority is to support people who want to quit and to prevent young people from taking up smoking.’

Commissioners are recommended to provide:

- **Support for Leicester people to stop smoking**

The Council will continue to invest in Leicester’s *Stop* Smoking Service. This is a targeted stop smoking service, providing high-quality, evidence-based support to those people who require it the most. The service is now part of the City Council and

is building links with other council services to improve access and take-up. Our priority is to support adults who want to quit, thereby also preventing young people from taking up smoking. The best thing a smoker can do is to stop immediately, completely and permanently. However, not all smokers are able or wish to stop in one step, therefore harm-reduction interventions can move them closer to becoming smoke-free.

- **Support for priority groups to stop smoking**

All pregnant women who smoke, those who are planning a pregnancy or who have an infant aged less than one year, those with long-term conditions and people with poor mental health are all priority groups for stopping smoking. Investment and concerted efforts to influence and encourage them to stop smoking will result in better outcomes and reduced healthcare costs.

- **Commissioning principles for comprehensive local tobacco control**

Local authority public health commissioners will work closely with all relevant partners to coordinate and where appropriate commission high-quality, evidence-led, comprehensive tobacco control interventions, including tackling the demand and supply of illegal tobacco, increasing the number of smoke-free environments, and educating the public about the harms of niche products such as smokeless/chewed tobacco and shisha.



**Source:** PHE. *Comprehensive local tobacco control: Why invest?*

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