

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**18 April 2019**

**Report of the Director of Public Health**

**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SMOKEFREE PUBLIC  
SPACES ACROSS DERBYSHIRE  
(Health and Communities)**

**1. Purpose of the report:**

To seek approval to commence an eight week consultation by online survey on proposed additional smoke-free public spaces across Derbyshire.

**2. Information and analysis:**

**2.1 National legislation and policy**

The changes brought in by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 gave local authorities a new duty to take such steps as they consider appropriate for improving the health of the people in their areas<sup>1</sup>. The Health Act 2006 made virtually all enclosed public places and workplaces in England smoke-free, and provides further opportunities to create additional smoke-free spaces in specific circumstances<sup>2</sup>.

**2.2 Effects of second-hand smoke**

Whenever a cigarette is smoked, second-hand smoke is produced. This is the smoke exhaled by the smoker, plus the smoke created by the lit end of a cigarette. Second hand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, many of which are irritants and toxins, including:

- Arsenic, which can be found in rat poison
- Benzene, which is found in petrol fumes and can cause leukaemia
- Cyanide, which is poisonous and an industrial pollutant

These can be especially devastating to children as they have less well developed airways, lungs and immune systems. Every time a child breathes in second-hand smoke they breathe in thousands of chemicals which puts them at risk of serious health conditions such as meningitis and cancer, and respiratory

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<sup>1</sup> Health and Social Care Act 2012 Section 12

<sup>2</sup> Health Act 2006 Chapter 1 Section 4

conditions such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Second-hand smoke has been linked to a range of adverse outcomes during early-life including stillbirth, low birthweight, infant mortality, and asthma.

## **2.3 Derbyshire smoking statistics**

Smoke-free legislation, introduced in 2007, has made great strides in helping reduce the proportion of adult smokers in England from 19.9% in 2011 to 14.9% in 2017. However, smoking remains the single largest cause of preventable deaths: alongside Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, which includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis, cigarette smoking causes most cases of lung cancer, is a factor in heart disease and is one of the largest causes of health inequalities in England.

### Adults

15.1% of adults in Derbyshire, approximately 96,600, are currently smokers.

### Young People

It is important to reduce the number of young people taking up smoking, as it is recognised to be an addiction largely taken up in childhood. In the most recent “My Life My View” survey of 3714 young people in Derbyshire, 9% of year 8s, 17% of year 9s and 26% of year 10s reported that they have tried a cigarette. Of the young people that are semiregular or regular smokers, the figures indicate a smoking population within the cohort of 5% in year 8, 9% in year 9 and 14% in year 10. The highly addictive nature of nicotine is evident even at this age, as a relatively large minority of between 40% and 50% of those young people who do smoke, do so every day.

### Vulnerable groups

It is estimated that:

- 39.9% of people with a serious mental illness (SMI) are smokers
- 28.9% of adults with a long term mental health condition are smokers
- 24.8% of adults with anxiety or depression are smokers
- 80% of prison populations smoke
- unemployed people are twice as likely to be cigarette smokers as employed people who share similar characteristics.

15.4% of women in Derbyshire continued smoking during pregnancy, a significantly higher percentage than in England as a whole.

### Economic cost

The estimated cost of smoking in Derbyshire in 2016 was £174.7 million, covering

- productivity costs e.g. early deaths, absenteeism
- healthcare costs e.g. hospital admissions, treatment
- social care costs e.g. care in later life
- house fire costs e.g. property damage, fire service costs

## **2.4 Rationale for additional smoke-free public places**

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Derbyshire 2018 onwards includes the priority to “enable people in Derbyshire to live healthy lives”. One of the commitments towards achieving this priority directly relates to tobacco control:

- Supporting the delivery of a tobacco control strategy and action plan for Derbyshire, with priorities that include increasing the number of smoke-free environments

Introducing additional smoke-free public spaces will have the following benefits;

- to reduce the uptake of smoking by children and young people by helping to make smoking less socially acceptable
- to reduce the risk of exposure to second-hand smoke, particularly for children
- to reduce smoking-related litter, which is non-biodegradable and toxic to children, wildlife and the environment
- to reduce fire risk

Hospital grounds are an example of where work has already been undertaken to create additional smoke-free spaces, including Chesterfield Royal Hospital’s “Proud to be Smoke free” campaign. Another example is Derbyshire Healthcare Foundation Trust which has a smoke-free policy meaning that all staff, service users and visitors are not allowed to smoke tobacco anywhere on their sites including wards, grounds, vehicles and during home visits.

The results of this consultation will inform future partnership working between the Authority and decision makers such as districts and boroughs, schools, leisure centres etc.

The smoke-free spaces we intend to consult on are:

- 1 Infant, junior and primary school gates
- 2 Children’s play areas/play grounds
- 3 Children’s sports clubs
- 4 Adults’ sports clubs
- 5 Sports stadiums
- 6 Bus and taxi stands
- 7 Outside DCC, District and Borough council buildings
- 8 Leisure Centre entrances
- 9 Skate parks
- 10 Theme Parks (targeted at children’s specific areas)

**3. Social Value considerations:**

Consultation on this will allow the communities of Derbyshire to communicate their views on future smoke-free public spaces initiatives.

Subsequent initiatives involving children will result in the young person developing key prevention messages which will increase positive citizenship and improve “theory into practice” experience relevant to their educational and work skills development.

Any reduction in smoking as a result of initiatives would help to reduce the reliance on emergency health services and will reduce the pressure on the NHS and social care, thus supporting the aims of the local Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

**4. Financial considerations:**

There will be no additional financial costs for the consultation which will be an online survey.

**5. Other considerations:**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

**6. Background papers:**

“Our Lives, Our Health” Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2023

**7. Key Decision: No**

**8. Is it necessary to waive the call in period? No**

**9. Officer's Recommendation:**

That Cabinet approves the commencement of an eight week consultation on proposals to encourage additional smoke-free areas across Derbyshire.

**Dean Wallace**  
**Director of Public Health**

## **Appendix – proposed consultation questions**

Derbyshire County Council are wishing to consult with the public on creating additional smoke-free public spaces. The creation of additional smoke-free public spaces will help to reduce the harmful effects of second hand smoke on the general public and will be achieved by working in partnership with other organisations, such as district and borough councils. Children are particularly affected by second hand smoke, therefore there is a focus on public spaces where children are likely to be.

**Q1 How important do you feel it is to create additional smoke-free public spaces across Derbyshire to reduce the risk of second hand smoke?**

Very important      Fairly important      Not very important  
Not important at all      Don't know

**Q2 How important is it to you that people do not smoke in the presence of children?**

Very important      Fairly important      Not very important  
Not important at all      Don't know

**Q3 Would you support the creation of smoke-free public spaces?**

Yes      No      Don't know

**Q3a If “yes”, or “don't know” would you support measures to create smoke-free public spaces at the following venues? (Please select all that apply.)**

Infant, junior and primary school gates  
Children's play areas/play grounds  
Children's sports clubs  
Adults' sports clubs  
Sports stadiums  
Bus and taxi stands  
Outside DCC/district and borough council buildings  
Leisure Centre entrances  
Skate parks  
Theme Parks (targeted at children's specific areas)

**Q4 How important do you feel it is to provide information to smokers on services that would help them to quit?**

Very important      Fairly important      Not very important  
Not important at all      Don't know

**Q5 Are you a smoker?**

Yes, I am currently a smoker

No, but I was previously a smoker

No. I use e-cigarettes / vapes

No, I have never smoked

**Q6 Are you answering this questionnaire as: (Please select all that apply)**

- ☐ A Derbyshire resident
- ☐ A Derbyshire business owner
- ☐ A person who works in Derbyshire
- ☐ A representative of a group/organisation
- ☐ Other (Please select and specify below)

If 'Other', please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are answering on behalf of a group/organisation please provide the name here: \_\_\_\_\_

### About you

The following questions are about you and will help us understand the views of different demographic groups and of people living in different areas of Derbyshire.

**Q7 What is your home postcode?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Q8 Are you:** ☐ Male ☐ Female

**Q9 What was your age at your last birthday?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Q10 A disabled person is someone who has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Do you consider yourself disabled?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Q11 If you do consider yourself disabled, what type of disability do you have? (Please select all that apply)**

- ☐ Disability affecting mobility ☐ A learning disability
- ☐ Disability affecting hearing ☐ Other
- ☐ Disability affecting vision

If 'Other', please specify

\_\_\_\_\_

**Q12 What is your ethnic group?**

☐ **White British**

☐ **White Other**

☐ **Mixed**

☐ **Asian/Asian British**

☐ **Black/Black British**

☐ **Chinese**

☐ **Other**

**If 'Other', please specify**

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