



Public Health England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

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To: NHS Trust Chief Executives

cc: NHS Trust Medical Directors and Local Directors of Public Health

Dear everyone,

Progressing a smokefree NHS

I am writing to thank you for the positive action you have taken towards making the ambition for a smokefree NHS an everyday reality.

Reaching the one million smokers in hospital beds, most of whom want help to quit, requires strong and visible leadership at all levels within the NHS.

I especially commend the 90 per cent of mental health services who have already adopted the *Preventing Ill Health by Risky Behaviours – Alcohol and Tobacco* CQUIN, and many Acute services are also implementing this—training staff to develop brief advice as an integral part of patient care, and agreeing local pathways for patients to receive smoking cessation support.

Other than saying thank you, I also wanted to let you know that we are piloting a survey of Trusts across the South of England to better understand their current smokefree status, with a view to extending the survey across England later in the year. Contact will be through your Medical Director's office by phone—asking for a nominee to respond—and will include questions on the nature of your smokefree policy, what evidence based support you offer to smokers to quit and how to assure yourselves this is being implemented.

We look forward to understanding more about how you are progressing along your smokefree journeys and working with you to achieve a smokefree generation in England.

With best wishes

Duncan Selbie
Chief Executive

cc. Simon Stevens, Chief Executive, NHS England and Ian Dalton, Chief Executive, NHS Improvement