

Tobacco Control Alliance Progress Report

This Smokefree Devon Alliance Progress report has been authored and ratified by the Devon and Torbay Tobacco Control Alliance and is being shared with the Health & Wellbeing Board for information. The report demonstrates progress to date against the 2018-2023 strategy, with the future actions/intentions going forward against the three priorities of:

- Protecting children and young people from tobacco and encourage Smokefree pregnancies.
- Reducing health inequalities caused by smoking and support vulnerable groups to be Smokefree.
- Creating and support Smokefree organisations, particularly NHS organisations.

Progress in Torbay

Progress Towards Priority 1: To protect children and young people from tobacco and encourage Smokefree pregnancies

For Smoking at the Time of Booking (SATOB) there has been a declining rate of women presenting as smokers at this point in the process. For Smoking at the Time of Delivery (SATOD) percentages remain higher than in Devon generally, but the trend shows a reducing percentage of women smoking at the time of delivery, with 2019/20 data showing a prevalence of 11.6%.

The trendlines is for a widening gap between SATOB and SATOD, which means that fewer women are coming into maternity services as smokers and those pregnant women who are smoking are quitting in higher numbers.

Regarding smoking prevalence amongst young people due to the WAY survey not been repeated, there is no update from the 10% prevalence reported in Devon in 2014/15.

Progress Towards Priority 2: To reduce health inequalities caused by smoking and support vulnerable groups to be Smokefree

Data from Public Health England's 'Fingertips Tool' shows downward trend for smoking prevalence in adults with a long-term mental health condition in Torbay. Amongst routine and manual worker populations, however, the prevalence of smoking in Torbay has been at 29.1% in Torbay during 2019.

Progress Towards Priority 3: To create and support Smokefree organisations, particularly NHS organisations

In Torbay, hospital admissions attributable to smoking have reduced. There were 1738 admissions during 2018/19, which is higher than Devon at 1612 per 100,000 of the population.

Covid-19 and its impact

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented significant challenges for tobacco control work. Regarding stop smoking services there was a move to virtual stop smoking support, which some service users have preferred, and others found problematic. Due to disruption of established referral pathways through Health Services from responding to the pandemic this has an impact. In addition, the pausing of CO monitoring nationally has had a detrimental impact, as an important behaviour change tool and measure of success.

More positively, there is evidence that COVID-19 may have increased people's motivation to quit and taken action to do so. The longer-term situation is unclear.