

ASSEMBLY

30 MARCH 2011

REPORT OF THE HEALTH AND ADULT SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

Title: Smoking Cessation Scrutiny Review	For Decision
<p>Summary:</p> <p>The Health and Adult Services Select Committee (HASSC) has concluded its scrutiny review on the issue of smoking. The Select Committee's final report is attached as Appendix A.</p> <p>The HASSC met between July 2010 and January 2011 to gather evidence through reports, presentations and interviews with service providers. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Part C, Section E, paragraph 9, the final report setting out the Select Committee's findings and recommendations was agreed by the HASSC on 9 March 2011 and submitted to Cabinet on 15 March 2011 for information and comment. The Cabinet generally welcomed the report but wished to make a number of comments, and these are set out at Appendix B.</p> <p>In relation to the recommendations adopted by Assembly, the HASSC will then ask service providers to respond with detailed comments, including impacts, risk and timescales, and provide an implementation action plan.</p> <p>At six monthly intervals a report from the service providers setting out the progress of the implementation plan will be presented to the HASSC for monitoring purposes until all recommendations have been addressed to its satisfaction.</p> <p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
<p>Recommendation</p> <p>The Assembly is recommended to adopt the Health and Adult Services Select Committee's recommendations as set out in the report.</p>	
<p>Reason</p> <p>To assist the Council in achieving its Community Priority to create a 'healthy' Borough. The outcomes of the review are also intended to complement the objectives of the Barking and Dagenham Tobacco Strategy and work of the Tobacco Alliance.</p>	
<p>Comments of the Chief Financial Officer</p> <p>There are no specific financial implications or commitments associated with the report at this stage, although some of the recommendations if approved could ultimately lead to additional expenditure for partners involved. These decisions would have to be made as part of the normal budget approval processes.</p>	
<p>Comments of the Legal Partner</p> <p>Legal implications are addressed in the body of the report attached.</p>	
<p>Risk Management</p> <p>There are no intrinsic risks associated with the recommendations. Should any risks</p>	

become apparent, officers and members must consider actions that can be taken to mitigate these risks and make a decision as to whether it is appropriate to continue with the implementation of the recommendations.

Customer Impact

The Barking and Dagenham Tobacco Strategy highlights three target groups (routine and manual workers, young people, and pregnant women) that have particularly high smoking prevalence and are in need of better stop smoking interventions. The Select Committee has attempted to make recommendations that will benefit two of these priority groups; young people and routine manual workers. The Select Committee did not have sufficient time to explore issues of pregnant women smoking. However, the needs of pregnant women are addressed in the local Tobacco Strategy and Tobacco Alliance's action plan for delivery.

Due to high adult smoking rates in Barking and Dagenham, it is reasonable to assume that local young people are at greater risk of starting smoking themselves than elsewhere in London. The perpetuation of tobacco use across generations is one of the major reasons for the differences in quality of life and life expectancy between the most and least affluent groups in the population. In light of this trend the Select Committee has made several recommendations aimed at preventing young people from smoking and supporting those that already do to quit.

Recommendation 8 calls for existing plans to introduce a bespoke youth stop smoking service to be implemented; this will see young people's specific needs being catered for in a way that currently does not exist. Recommendations 9 and 10 have been designed to make it more difficult for young people to access tobacco products therefore reducing the likelihood of them smoking regularly, if at all.

Routine and manual workers, who form a significant percentage of the local population, tend to start smoking earlier, become more dependent on cigarettes, and are less likely to use stop smoking services for support to stop smoking.

Based on the findings above, one of the primary aims of the report (see recommendations 12, 13, 14, and 15) is to encourage local employers to improve workplace smoking policies, offer comprehensive stop smoking support, and clamp down on the trade of illicit tobacco in the workplace.

The Select Committee did not directly consult with young people or routine manual workers in the formation of the recommendations. However, recent studies/consultations conducted by the Tobacco Alliance and NHS Barking and Dagenham were used as an evidence base for the recommendations.

There are no envisaged negative customer impacts at this time as care has been taken by the Select Committee to not discriminate or disadvantage any equalities group. Any subsequent equalities and diversity matters will be identified and addressed at the implementation stage.

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