

# Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016



## Impact of Smoking on Children and Young People - Update

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**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive,  
and Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director of Children & Adult  
Services**

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### Purpose of Report

1. To provide members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an introduction to an overview presentation on the impact of smoking on children and young people. The presentation is given by Dianne Woodall, Public Health Portfolio lead for smoking.

### Background

2. Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee received an overview presentation at its meeting on 3 November 2014 and asked that a further update come back to a future meeting. In accordance with this decision Impact of smoking on Children and Young people was added to the committee's work programme for 2015/2016.

### Detail

3. Performance information indicates that for the period July to Sept 2015 the number of mothers smoking at the time of delivery has reduced. This would suggest that the regional babyClear initiative is having an impact regionally and locally. However we need to wait for the full evaluation of the regional babyClear initiative in early 2016. In County Durham this reduction is slower in Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG in comparison to North Durham CCG.
4. The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) annual survey – 'Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2015' indicate the prevalence of smoking among young people is declining. The survey also indicates that the number of pupils who smoked at least once, is the lowest since the survey began in 1982. The numbers of pupils that had tried an e-cigarette is still lowest amongst pupils who had never smoked.

5. The County Durham student voice survey (2015) reported that 88% of students have never tried smoking, with 5% of students reported using e-cigarettes either sometimes (once a month or more) or often (once a week or more).
6. In County Durham around 1,257 children need GP or hospital treatment every year due to breathing secondhand smoke. The student survey voice survey reported 53% of students identified that they often find themselves near other people who are smoking. In relation to where this happens, 35% identifying 'in their home'. Exposure to second hand smoke in cars was identified by 17% of students.

### **Recommendation**

7. Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to receive the presentation and comment accordingly.

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance – N/A**

**Staffing – N/A**

**Risk – N/A**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – N/A**

**Accommodation – N/A**

**Crime and Disorder – N/A**

**Human Rights – N/A**

**Consultation – N/A**

**Procurement – N/A**

**Disability Issues – N/A**

**Legal Implications – N/A**