

Reference Number: FOI/2020/112
From: Commercial
Date: 02 April 2020
Subject: Hospital grounds smoking ban

Q1 Please tell me how your Trust plans to enforce the new smoking ban on hospital grounds once it takes effect in April?

A1 The Trust is and has been a non -smoking site for many years. We have a nominated Lead Nurse who is responsible for implementing, cascading and reviewing the operational Smoke Free Policy. This policy has been updated and is available for all staff to access on the staff intranet. We also have adequate signage throughout the Hospital internally and externally.

Q2 Secondly for those caught disobeying the ban, if they are to be fined as a result, how much exactly would they have to pay out?

A2 Currently we have seen an increase in compliance to our policy by patients, visitors and staff.

Any staff who do not adhere to the policy would be reminded and supported on how they may adhere to the policy and supported to help abstain or make a quit attempt and then would be signposted to a Smoking Cessation Service in their locality. Non- compliance may lead to staff being managed in line with Trust Disciplinary policy.

Any other person not adhering to the policy will be reminded of the policy in place and asked to respect and adhere to this for the benefit of themselves and their relatives.

To date we are not issuing any fines and have no plans to implement a process currently.

Q3 Thirdly, does your trust currently offer any on-site smoking cessation methods to encourage people to quit or seek an alternative to traditional cigarettes (such as e-cigarettes)? Would these also have to be purchased or would they be distributed free of charge?

A3 All patients are asked about their smoking status and a full history is also taken and this is recorded robustly in a standardised document within the patient's health record.

We offer verbal / written evidence based advice in line with Making Every Contact Count Training – which includes informing patients.

We also offer and can prescribe a variety of evidenced based pharmacotherapy treatment for any patient to support enforced abstinence and quit attempts. This is provided free of charge and patients will be given a 2-week supply when they are discharged from Hospital.

We also have a robust electronic referral pathway in place – any patient who consents to a referral will be automatically referred to their local Stop Smoking Service. This process

is managed by a dedicated team and is regularly reviewed, audited and reported on by the Lead Nurse.

We do not currently prescribe E cigarettes / vapes although we do support any patients using these devices but they are not allowed to be used internally or externally and this is outlined within the Smoke Free Policy.

All of our initiatives and policies are co-ordinated and shared with other Trusts locally and we work collaboratively to ensure we have continuity and equity.