

**MEETING OF THE RESEARCH AND EVALUATION SUB-GROUP OF THE MINISTERIAL WORKING GROUP ON TOBACCO CONTROL – THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER 2015 CONFERENCE ROOM 2, VICTORIA QUAY, EDINBURGH  
09.30.A.M. – 13.30.P.M.**

**Present:**

**Chair**

Professor Linda Bauld, University of Stirling

**Membership**

Ms Allison Brisbane, ASH Scotland  
Mrs Fiona Dunlop, Scottish Government  
Dr Fiona MacDonald, Scottish Government, ASD  
Dr Sean Semple, University of Aberdeen  
Dr Helen Sweeting, University of Glasgow  
Professor David Tappin, University of Glasgow  
Mr Richard Lawder, ISD  
Mrs Siobhan Mackay, Scottish Government  
Professor Amanda Amos, University of Edinburgh  
Dr Crawford Moodie, University of Stirling  
Dr Garth Reid, NHS Health Scotland  
Dr Mark Robinson, NHS Health Scotland

**Secretariat**

**Miss Nicola Rennie, Scottish Government**

**In Attendance**

**Mr John Glen, Scottish Government  
Miss Rebecca Shevlin, Scottish Government**

**Apologies**

Professor Sally Haw, University of Stirling  
Dr Vivian Binnie, University of Glasgow  
Professor Gerard Hastings, University of Stirling  
Ms Sheila Duffy, ASH Scotland  
Professor Jeffrey Collin, University of Edinburgh  
Ms Fiona Moore, NHS Health Scotland

**Note of Meeting**

**Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introductions**

1. **Professor Bauld** welcomed everyone to the eighteenth meeting of the Sub-Group. The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting held on 9 June 2015.

**Agenda Item 2: Actions from previous meeting:**

2. Minutes from the last meeting were agreed by email

**Agenda Item 3: E-cigarettes**

3. **Siobhan MacKay** updated the group on the progress of the Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Bill which is in the process of consideration by the Scottish Parliament. Part 1 of

the Bill covers non-medicinal nicotine vapour products (NVPs), tobacco control and smoking on NHS hospital grounds. Each element of Part 1 is as follows:

- Minimum age of 18 for the sale of NVPs,
- Prohibition of sales of NVPs from vending machines,
- The purchase of NVPs on behalf of an under 18 (proxy purchase),
- Mandatory registration for the sale of NVPs,
- Banning certain forms of domestic advertising and promotion of NVPs,
- An age verification policy for sales of tobacco products and NVPs,
- Banning unauthorised sales of tobacco and NVPs by under 18s,
- A smoke-free perimeter around buildings on NHS hospital sites

4. The Health and Sport Committee took evidence at Stage 1 with the debate completed on 1 December 2015. She explained that the stage 1 report, published on the 9 November, was largely supportive of the Bill's proposals with the Health and Sport Committee making a number of detailed requests for amendments to the Bill. The Committee was in agreement with SG that one register is appropriate for both tobacco and NVPs but there will be a clear separation of the products on the website where the Register is publically available. The Committee supported the approach adopted by the Scottish Government in relation to NVP advertising. She confirmed that Stage 2 was due to take place in the New Year and it was not yet known what other amendments would be brought forward. Overall, the parliament was supportive of the measures contained in the Bill.

5. **Linda Bauld** reported to the group that the Welsh Public Health Bill would be changed to only ban the use of e-cigarettes in schools, eating places and on public transport.

6. Regarding NHS Health Scotland's position statement on the use of e-cigarettes Garth Reid indicated that a meeting would be scheduled for January or February 2016 to consider a joint statement with Directors of Public Health. **Siobhan Mackay** suggested that it would be advantageous to produce a simple collaborative statement.

7. **Fiona MacDonald** confirmed to the group that the Scottish Government Health Analytical Services Division and Public Health Division had commissioned exploratory qualitative research which would investigate the experiences and attitudes of 16-25 year olds, who are no longer in school, in regard to electronic cigarettes. This would help identify initial themes for policy makers to consider and for future research. Griesbach and Associates were awarded with the contract and were due to report their findings in April 2016. The work fills a gap in research for the 16-25 age group and establish where e-cigarettes were fitting into their lives. A presentation on this work will be provided at the next meeting of the group.

8. **Amanda Amos** updated the group on two research projects. The first project on e-cigarettes will be completed in summer 2016. It is an 18 month study looking at the 16-24 age group and the re-normalisation of smoking & e-cigarette use using small friendship groups. She commented on the success so far in recruiting NEET groups. The second study is the DISPLAY study on the point of sale ban. Papers are currently under review looking at the links related to e-cigarette use, intention to use and e-cigarette PoS marketing. She made the group aware that the next STA research meeting would be held on 11 December centred on the DISPLAY study led by Sally Haw at the University of Stirling on the impact of the ban on point of sale tobacco displays and advertising on teenagers' exposure to tobacco advertising, attitudes towards smoking and actual smoking behaviour.

9. **Richard Lawder** updated the group with the news that since the last meeting, the national smoking cessation database had been updated to include questions on e-cigarette use which would be available from January 2016 onwards. Richard passed the questions which have been added to the database around the group to view.

10. **Amanda Amos** added that a further study on smoking in the home led by Neneh Rowa-Dewar is taking place in Lothian interviewing and working with vulnerable mothers who care for toddlers, looking at harm reduction.

11. **Siobhan MacKay** updated the group with the latest news that the MHRA had granted a license to the first e-cigarette called e-Voke by Nicoventures. In comparison, Voke, the first device to be licensed by the MHRA and also a product developed by Nicoventures, was not a true e-cigarette but an inhaler. The Scottish Government was in discussion with medicine colleagues about whether e-voke could be prescribed or not.

12. **Linda Bauld** updated the group on the latest developments of the UK electronic cigarette forum which was set up with Public Health England and CRUK. She explained that the next meeting was due to commence on the 21 January 2016 with the discussion based on e-cigarettes and mental health. The meeting would also have presentations on e-cigarettes and stop smoking services. She added that the April session would review e-cigarettes and air quality.

13. **Allison Brisbane** shared with the group, the world's first high security e-cigarette which was suitable for use in prisons. She explained that the device had a range of security features which ensured that parts could not be detached and was fairly cheap to purchase. **Fiona Dunlop** confirmed to the group that the devices were currently being sold in English prisons and were in high demand.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Standardised Packaging**

14. **Linda Bauld** reported to the group that the legal battle by the tobacco industry to block the introduction of standardised tobacco packaging in the United Kingdom had commenced in the High Court. The four major manufacturers (British American Tobacco, Imperial Tobacco Limited, Japan Tobacco International and Philip Morris International) were challenging the UK Government and seeking a ruling that the regulations on standardised packaging were unlawful. If the tobacco industry legal challenge failed, all cigarettes and hand-rolled tobacco would have to be manufactured in standard packs from May 2016. **Siobhan Mackay** confirmed to the group that the regulations on standardised packaging would complement the TPD.

15. **Dr Crawford Moodie** updated the group on a longitudinal study that Stirling University was currently working on in collaboration with King's College London assessing the before and after impact of the introduction of standardised packaging. The first wave of the study would be in April 2016.

16. **Linda Bauld** reported to the group that most studies evaluating the impact of standardised packaging were English based studies and the research gap in Scotland needed to be looked at. She added that a Department of Health secondary analysis study would assess pre and post standardised packaging and CRUK were also commissioning work, including a fellowship with relevant elements, an analysis of cost data (Nielsen data) and a retail audit building on one previously conducted in Australia.. She also reported to the group that ASH in England were expanding the YouGov survey on young people's views on standardised packaging.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Second-hand Smoke/ Cars and Homes/ Hospital Grounds**

17. **Siobhan MacKay** provided a policy update to the group. The two Bills under consideration by the Scottish Parliament would cover smoking in cars and hospital grounds: the Smoking Prohibition (Children in Motor Vehicles) (Scotland) Bill and the Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Bill. She reported to the group that Jim Hume's Smoking in Cars Bill had progressed quickly and completed Stage 2.. She expected that the Bill would complete its parliamentary journey by Thursday 17 December.

18. She commented further that the proposals on hospital grounds in the Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Bill, attracted a lot of discussion. Currently, NHS Boards have implemented a voluntary smoking ban on hospital grounds with smoking shelters used as a last resort since the 2005 guidance was issued. The strategy required all grounds to be smoke free but compliance has proven to be a challenge. NHS Chief Executives want better enforcement. She reported to the group that the Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Bill would introduce a statutory smoke-free perimeter around buildings on NHS hospital sites. The Bill does not set the perimeter distance, the regulations would do this.

19. **Sean Semple** updated the group. He discussed the meeting of the smoke free homes network in October 2015 which involved 28 individuals from across the NHS Boards in Scotland. The next meeting would be held in April 2016. He reported that the smoke-free homes website had been launched and added that the first steps work in NHS Lanarkshire would be completed in early 2016. He expected that the six month follow up will be carried out in summer 2016. He also reported to the group that he is involved in the Refresh work at Aberdeen University providing feedback on SHS in homes. He reported to the group that he is also involved in an EU project on tackling SHS exposure in homes across a number of countries which is scheduled for completion in 2019. Linda Bauld asked him to circulate an abstract of the study to the group, this has now been sent round the group.

20. **Dr Helen Sweeting** reported to the group that the Universities of Glasgow, Aberdeen and Stirling were about to submit a proposal to NIHR to evaluate the introduction of smoke-free policies in prisons of which **Fiona Dunlop** is also involved. If the proposal is unsuccessful, she suggested that survey work could be done on staff and prisoners but that she has hopes that funding will be available. **Fiona Dunlop** confirmed to the group that she is currently working on a scoping paper on smoking in prisons.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Young people**

21. **Amanda Amos** updated the group on the latest meeting of the prevention group with inequalities being the primary focus with the meeting centred around what these inequalities are and the challenges that policy makers face. **John Glen** added that an inequalities workshop was held in the Grassmarket on 10 September 2015. He confirmed that a paper will be submitted to Ministers in the new year.

22. **Fiona MacDonald** reported to the group that the ASSIST pilots were progressing well and would be completed in 2017.

23. **Amanda Amos** reported that more papers are now coming out on e-cigarettes and young people and that focus groups in the DISPLAY study could pick up on standardised packaging. She discussed her involvement in the EU 2020 project on young people and smoking. The study involves 7 countries across Europe but she commented that Scotland was not one of the sites. However, Scotland is doing the qualitative analysis of the fieldwork which would take place in Autumn 2016.

24. **Fiona MacDonald** updated the group on the SALSUS report produced in February which was conducted by Ipsos MORI ( Market Opinion Research International) . The related study had been undertaken which evaluated 30 years of SALSUS data.. The official publication would be available on the Scottish Government's website.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Smoking Prevalence/ Cessation**

25. **Fiona Dunlop** updated the group on the latest HEAT target. She reported that the 2014/ 15 data has been published and unfortunately cessation services failed to meet the target of 12,000 for the first time with only 7,000 quits achieved. She added that there was a lot of disparity across Boards, for example, Shetland did really well but Forth Valley did quite poorly. The 2015/16 LDP Standard on smoking cessation: 40 per cent reduction in people going through service. The target is 7, 279 quits for this year and the indication after 3 months is that performance is improving. She reported to the group that the quit target has been reduced, pharmacy contracts have now bedded in and there was increasing engagement with e-cigarette users. Data from Johnston and Johnston is showing a similar picture. **Siobhan Mackay** stated that it was worth reflecting that the three month target had moved from a monthly target.

26. **Richard Lawder** reported to the group that there is a lot of missing data from pharmacies relating to the HEAT one month follow up. Since the pharmacy contract came in, he estimated that around 40 per cent of data had been lost in one month and 60 per cent over three months. **Fiona Dunlop** raised the issue around the shared care model and that if the box is ticked for shared care, it goes through as a pharmacy quit. She commented that there was certainly a database issue which has been raised through co-ordinators and was an issue in Glasgow.

27. **Richard Lawder** reported to the group that the latest ScotPHO figures would be available in January 2016. He explained that the ScotPHO figures provide a one-stop shop of information where data could be accessed and compared via an online profile. There were two indications based on hospital admissions and deaths which were updated on the 8 December. He stated that in 2012 the smoking ready reckoner had shown that smoking was responsible for 13,000 deaths and 56,000 hospital admissions in Scotland. This has now been updated and the data reveals that there are now 10,000 hospital attributable deaths per year and 128,000 hospital admissions. The methodology has changed and the figures are now based on wholly and partially attributable smoking-related admissions. He added that a report which breaks down smoking attributable deaths further would be published in the near future. **Allison Brisbane** added that it would be useful to get information on how this data was configured and added further that it would be beneficial if ASH Scotland had the latest figures..

#### **Agenda Item 8: Presentation Work with Young People**

28. **Dr Helen Sweeting** presented to the Group on young people's views on e-cigarettes, particularly regarding their perception of potential harms/ benefits of their use with her presentation based on two draft papers. Her findings show that teenagers have a sophisticated understanding of e-cigarette debates and support the use of e-cigarettes for smoking cessation. Whilst perceiving e-cigarettes as attractive, young people also support their regulation. There is no direct evidence of a gateway effect.

29. A copy of the presentation is attached for ease of reference

#### **Agenda Item 9: Presentation Cigarette Retail Sales Data**

30. **Dr Garth Reid and Dr Mark Robinson** from NHS Health Scotland presented their work on cigarette retail sales Neilson data.

31. A copy of the presentation is attached for ease of reference

32. They indicated they will look further into Hand Rolled tobacco and focusing on the trends in cigarettes sales.

#### **Agenda Item 10: AOB and Date of Next meeting.**

**Action: It was agreed that the next meeting of the Sub-Group would be held in May/ June 2016 after the Scottish Parliamentary Election had taken place.**