

**MEETING OF THE RESEARCH AND EVALUATION SUB-GROUP OF THE
MINISTERIAL WORKING GROUP ON TOBACCO CONTROL – THURSDAY
21 NOVEMBER 2019**

**THE SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE, EDINBURGH
10.00 AM – 12.00 P.M**

Present:

Chair

Professor Linda Bauld, University of Edinburgh

Membership

Mr Morris Fraser, Scottish Government

Dr Crawford Moodie, University of Stirling

Dr Garth Reid, NHS Health Scotland

Ms Sheila Duffy, ASH Scotland

Professor Sally Haw, University of Stirling

Ashley Brown, University of Stirling (Deputising For Professor Kate Hunt)

Marium Uddin, NHS NSS ISD

Secretariat

Mr Stephen Young, Scottish Government

In Attendance

Ms Elaine Mitchell, Scottish Government

Mr John Glen, Scottish Government

Dr Rob Ralston, University of Edinburgh

Debbie Storm, ASH Scotland

Ms Marissa Smith, University of Glasgow

Apologies

Dr Sean Semple, University of Stirling

Professor Kate Hunt, University of Stirling

Professor David Tappin, University of Glasgow

Note of Meeting

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introductions

1. **Professor Bauld** welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Sub-Group.

Agenda Item 2: Actions from previous meeting:

2. Minutes from the last meeting were agreed by email, and there were no outstanding actions.

Agenda Item 3: E-cigarettes

3. **Morris Fraser** updated the group that the vaping consultation would be launched early 2020. This consultation will look at whether we should further restrict the advertising of these products – a domestic ban on advertising which will be around adverts on bus shelters, taxis, sponsorship and promotion of sports clubs etc., with legislation being presented before the Scottish Parliament late 2020.

4. It was noted that the Voke inhaler is now available to purchase. Although it is not bound by current legislation, there are concerns that it closely resembles a cigarette. It was also noted that the company may face obstacles in trying to market the product through pharmacies and other outlets.

5. **Ashley Brown** gave an update to the group on the e-cigarette elements of the TIPS study. Currently the study is looking at canteen data for purchases of e-cigarettes 3 months prior to and post introduction of smokefree prisons, including available data on what money is being spent on instead. Preliminary data should be available early 2020 and a presentation on this will be provided at a future meeting of the group.

6. **Morris Fraser** added that the Quit Your Way Service has now expanded into prisons to provide support to those individuals who wish to quit vaping.

7. **Professor Bauld** gave an update to the group on new studies recently shortlisted by funders. One on the effect of vaping for smoking cessation on periodontal disease, and the other on the creation of a trial “vape helpline” staffed by trained advisers which medical professionals could refer anyone to for smoking cessation advise with e-cigarettes, to help overcome the hurdle that clinicians can’t recommend the products and are often unsure what to say to smokers who ask about them.

Agenda Item 4: Standardised Packaging

8. **Dr Crawford Moodie** advised that he was recently approached by Health Canada, who are about to introduce standardised packaging and have also expressed an interest in future warnings on cigarette sticks themselves, a topic that he has researched.

9. He also advised that two studies are currently progressing around adolescents in Scotland, one focus group study, which has now been published, and one school survey, which is under review.

10. Additionally, confirmation was sought on whether the cigarette flavour ban was still happening in 2020. **Morris Fraser** confirmed that this will be happening in line with the Tobacco Products Directive.

11. **Morris Fraser** noted that the Tobacco Control Team had met recently with their respective counterparts in the devolved four nations, and had a productive discussion around the implementation to date of standardised packaging. An offer was made to discuss further with the group if of interest.

Agenda Item 5: Second Hand Smoke/Hospital Grounds

12. **Elaine Mitchell** provided an update on the consultation which will allow the SG to introduce a no-smoking perimeter around hospital buildings. There has been over 400 responses received so far, with the majority from individuals. Early indication is that there is support for the introduction of a no-smoking perimeter. There are also some concerns around the impact on those patients with disabilities, with several requests for a return of smoking shelters. The Scottish Government expects there to be a plethora of responses from Health Boards and other organisations closer to 10 January 2020 when the consultation closes.

13. **Morris Fraser** advised that following the end of the consultation and analysis of responses, and taking in consideration the current political landscape, it is planned to lay legislation before Scottish Ministers in June, with implementation of the legislation later in the year.

14. An offer was accepted from those present to share a list of key contacts that should be invited to contribute to the consultation.

Agenda Item 6: Young People

15. **Morris Fraser** gave an update that the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS), conducted on a biennial basis, and targeting secondary school pupils in local authority and independent schools, has now reported.

16. Additionally, it is planned to refresh the Tobacco Control Action plan in 2020/2021, reviewing where we currently are against existing targets, adding in new targets and looking at steps required to achieve these targets.

17. An invitation was extended to those present, to contribute to this process, particularly by compiling a list of priorities for new policies or practice developments. It was agreed that the group would prepare a briefing paper (the Chair offered researcher support to liaise with members to compile this, and NHS Health Scotland also offered to assist with coordinating it) to be shared with the Tobacco Control Team by April 2020.

Agenda Item 7: Smoking Prevalence and Services

18. **Marium Ulvin** advised the group that the publication on stop smoking service statistics for 2018/2019 is now available, via the NHS ISD website, happy to answer any questions around the data within.

19. **Dr Garth Reid** gave an update that a study has been commissioned around tobacco pricing using the Sheffield model. This piece of work is being taken forward by the University of Sheffield, covering a twelve-month period with findings due shortly after that.

Agenda Item 8: Presentation - SPECTRUM

20. **Dr Garth Reid** presented to the group an outline of SPECTRUM, a new Consortium that is the successor to the UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies and is funded by the UK Prevention Research Partnership.

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



Research &
Evaluation Group or

Agenda Item 9: Presentation - The Tobacco Control Capacity Programme (TCCP): examining stakeholder perceptions of policy priorities in international contexts

22. **Dr Rob Ralston** presented to the group on the Tobacco Control Capacity Programme (TCCP), an eight country (Africa, South Asia and UK) programme funded by Overseas Development Assistance via the Global Challenges Research Fund

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



Research &
Evaluation Group or

Agenda Item 10: Presentation - Eurobarometer Studies

24. **Professor Sally Haw** presented to the group on a recently published and forthcoming paper using Eurobarometer data. .

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



Eurobarometer
Study(2).pptx

Agenda Item 11: AOB and Date of Next meeting.

26. It was agreed that it would be helpful to continue to have presentations as a standing agenda item at future meetings of the group, as below.

Next round of presentations to include:

1. Second Hand Smoke - Rachel O'Donnell
2. Price Study (mentioned above) – Dr Garth Reid
3. Prisons – E Cigarette Data – Professor Kate Hunt and Ashley Brown

27. An around the table discussion took place regarding other suggestions, however members were invited to liaise with the Secretariat should there be any other topics they wish included.

28. It was agreed that a doodle poll will follow with potential dates for the next meeting, to take place in or around April 2020.

Stephen Young
Tobacco Control Team
30th November 2019