

# Smoke free prisons

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# Background

- Long standing commitment – from successive Governments – to implement smoke free prisons “in a safe and controlled way”
- September 2015 – implementation of early adopter sites announced
- Prisoner Judicial Reviews (x 2) and Trade Union concern (e.g. Prison Officers Association) re: exposure to second hand smoke
- Air quality monitoring (2015) in 10 sites – significant risk of exposure to second hand smoke at higher levels than WHO Guidance
- Cell-only smoking did not sufficiently address the risks



# Why not before?

- Safety & security, and concerns about risk of disorder
- Is a prison / prison cell a public place, a work place, or someone's "home"?
- Prisons were specifically excluded from the scope of the original smoking ban



# How?

- Review and optimise pre-existing smoking cessation services
  - Voluntary smoke free wings
  - Brief interventions
  - Nicotine replacement therapy (including self-purchase e-cigarettes)
  - Individual and/or group counselling
  - Pharmacotherapy
  - Self-help materials
  - Mass media & communications
- Commission additional provision to enhance pre-existing smoking cessation services



# Where are we up to?

- 21 Prisons Smoke Free
  - Early Adopters and Phase One
- 21,000 Smoke Free and Voluntary Smoke Free places
- Funding confirmed to Phase Two and Phase Three
  - About to be confirmed to Phase Four and Five
- Delivery Boards set up both at regional level (Midlands, North West) and Functional (Women's Estate, Long Term High Secure)



# What has worked?

- Building up through VSF
- Close joint work through planning and implementation
- Peer approaches
- PEIs
- Variety of access points
- Limited unrest or disorder
- Work with families
- So far – Vaping trial



# Issues

- Misuse of NRT
- Poor quality e-cigs
- Bullying
- Cessation model and harm reduction
- Limited pharmacological therapy
- Local areas 'designing' their own model
- Post-implementation



# Looking ahead

- End June 2017 – Publish Minimum Service Offer
- Phase 2 – June/July/August
- Phase 3 – August/September/October
- Phase 4 – October/November/December
- Phase 5 – January/February/March
- Lived Experience Review





“4 months on, it is like we never  
had smoking here”

*Governor, Parc*

“Potentially the biggest change to prisoner  
mortality and morbidity since the  
introduction of sanitation”

