

## **NHS Grampian Tobacco Policy Consultation Questionnaire**

All replies will be treated as confidential.

The revised NHS Grampian Tobacco Policy will introduce a smoke-free environment on all NHS Grampian sites. This will mean that **no one will be permitted to smoke on any NHS Grampian premises or grounds**. This extends the current ban, which applies to enclosed and substantially enclosed spaces only. Please give us your views.

### **1. What are the best ways to let patients, visitors and staff know that they are not allowed to smoke anywhere on NHS Grampian premises and grounds?**

As far as I understand there is no basis for this extension of the smoking ban in law. The Trust has no powers that it can enforce on the general public.

Whether it can enforce rules on patients or staff is another matter. However bringing in a smoking ban that applies throughout the staff's time on the hospital grounds cannot be said to be a mutually agreed change to conditions of service.

The inhumanity of making the sick leave the premise if they wish to smoke speaks for itself. (In addition, there are issues of cross contamination to be addressed if patients are leaving the grounds.)

### **2. What can NHS Grampian do to ensure that people do not smoke on its premises and grounds?**

Nothing.

**3. a) Do you think there will be any problems changing to a smoke-free environment?**

*(Please tick one box)*

Yes

No  Go to Q4

**b) If yes, what do you think these problems will be?**

Wasted time and energy attempting to enforce the policy. Time better spent on other duties.  
Heightened anxiety among staff (which may affect standards of care and treatment), visitors and patients. Covert smoking.

**c) Can you suggest ways in which NHS Grampian can deal with these problems?**

Provide a smoking room on hospital grounds.

**4. What do you think about the introduction of a smoke-free environment on all NHS Grampian premises and grounds? (Please tick one box)**

- Completely agree
- Agree to some extent
- Definitely do not agree

**5. a) NHS Grampian offers help and support for people who wish to stop smoking, are you aware of the support available?**

Yes  No

**b) If you smoke, would you consider using this help and support if you wanted to stop smoking (e.g. attending free smoking cessation classes)?**

Yes  No  Do not smoke

**c) Please comment below:**

NHS-administered NRT is the only 'help' available to patients whom the Grampian NHS Trust wishes to deny choice. The nicotine market is 'rigged' in favour of NHS nicotine treatments. For that reason I would not use it on principle. I believe the one-year success rate for nicotine replacement therapy averages about 10 per cent, and I would also not wish to waste my time on it for that reason, nor health service money.

## 6. Any other comments

This kind of proposal completely undermines our confidence in the trust. It is a trust that puts appearances above care for patients, visitors and staff. Insisting on staff carrying 'approved' NRT rather than tobacco when coming into work is disrespectful to staff. Insisting on people leaving the grounds before smoking leaves potential unresolved staffing issues, and risks making a stressful occupation even more stressful./

<http://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/Article.aspx/1124313?UserKey&UserKey=> The Trust is powerless to prevent patients and visitors smoking in the grounds.

**About you** (please tick one box for each question below):

7. Are you: Male  Female

8. Age: Under 25  45-54   
25-34  55-64   
35-44  65 and over

9. Are you a: Smoker  Non-smoker

10. Are you: NHS Grampian Staff   
Patient/ Member of Public   
Group/ Organisation (non-NHS)

11. If staff, what NHS Grampian site do you work on?

(e.g. Foresterhill, Inverurie Hospital, community setting) .....

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.**

Your comments will provide us with valuable feedback. The answers you give us will not be used for any other purpose. Any personal or other details in your comments which could identify you will not be made public.