

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

28 JUNE 2016

MOVING TO A SMOKE-FREE MFT (MEDWAY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST)

Report from: Medway NHS Foundation Trust

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Summary

This report seeks to provide a briefing for members of the Health and Wellbeing Board on the work being done to make Medway NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) smoke free. Staff at MFT are working in close collaboration with the Council's stop smoking officers to achieve this.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 This report is linked to the Interim Director of Public Health's report on encouraging and enabling smoking cessation, which was discussed at the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on 28 April 2016.
- 1.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board has a responsibility to encourage persons who arrange for the provision of any health and social care services in the area to work together in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people of Medway.

2. Background

- 2.1 MFT has taken the decision to go completely smoke-free on 17 October 2016. This means that smoking will be prohibited for staff, patients and visitors in all areas of Medway Maritime Hospital; the buildings, car parks and open areas.

3. How this is to be achieved

- 3.1 MFT has tried on various occasions in the past to go smoke-free but these attempts have proved unsuccessful. We are therefore trying to learn the lessons from what has not worked in the past, as well as what has worked at trusts such as Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, to ensure we are successful this time.

- 3.2 The work is being led by a committee of clinical and non-clinical staff from across the Trust, plus representation from the governors, a non-executive director and the council's stop smoking service.
- 3.3 There are various elements of the plan, detailed below:
- a) Support for patients, visitors and staff: we will be ensuring that nicotine replacement therapy is available to patients on the wards so that there is an alternative for them, if they need nicotine during their stay in hospital. The council's stop smoking service operates in the hospital and its availability will be widely promoted to patients, visitors and staff. In addition, the stop smoking service provides behavioural support along with nicotine replacement therapy to those that sign up to a seven week support programme.
 - b) Smoking champions: a number of staff are volunteering to be smoking champions; this means that they will look out for anyone they see smoking on site, have a conversation with them about the Trust's smoke-free approach and the benefits of giving up, and asking them to put out their cigarettes.
 - c) Training: we will be undertaking a programme of training for ward-based staff to ensure that they are able to inform patients that the site is smoke-free, to stop them from going outside for a cigarette, and signpost them to the support available, including nicotine replacement therapy. Training will be provided for the smoking champions and information about the Trust's smoke-free policy will be incorporated into our induction. The council's stop smoking service is designing this training for us.
 - d) Communications: We are carrying out an extensive communications programme, which will include communications to staff, posters and banners for the public, large signs, tannoys in the entrance areas, information on the wards, letters and leaflets for patients coming into hospital for treatment, information for residents in the Medway and Swale council publications, and more.
 - e) Staff: In addition to the activities outlined above, we will hold roadshow events for staff to enable them to come and ask questions about the changes, and ensure that managers are provided with information which enables them to support and guide staff who either want to stop smoking or who don't want to stop but need to comply with the new policy.
 - f) Contractors and partners: We will also ensure that contractors and partners, such as SECAMB, the police and Prison Service, know of our plans and ensure that their own staff do not smoke on site.
 - g) External engagement: We met the local ward councillors for Gillingham South ward on 10 June, and are holding a meeting for Foundation Trust members and local residents in July to gain their input and thoughts. We are also engaging with Healthwatch Medway.

In addition, representatives from the Trust, including our respiratory consultant and deputy director of nursing, will be joining representatives from the council and from the CCG on 29 June to discuss taking forward the proposals outlined in the Interim Director of Public Health's paper, discussed at the April meeting.

- h) Compliance: We will engage extra security on site for a temporary period of time to handle those people who persist in smoking on site, despite all the other steps we are taking. In addition, we are exploring whether any additional powers may be available to our security officers under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme.

3.4 Updates on progress can be reported to future meetings of the health and Wellbeing Board if it would be helpful.

4. Risk management

4.1 MFT's smoke-free committee meets fortnightly to review progress and ensure that the plan is on track. Regular updates are also provided to the Trust's Executive Team and the Board.

5. Financial implications

5.1 The Trust has allocated £40,000 to cover the cost of implementation, including signage, additional security and communications.

5.2 Any additional programme activity will be met from within existing Medway Council (Public Health) allocations for Stop Smoking programmes.

6. Legal implications

6.1 See under compliance at 3.3h above.

7. Recommendations

7.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to note this report.

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Appendices

None

Background papers

None