

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

30 July 2020

Report of the Director of Public Health

REIMBURSEMENT OF STOP SMOKING PHARMACOTHERAPY PRODUCT COSTS

1. Purpose of the report:

To seek Cabinet approval to reimburse the Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), for the costs of stop smoking pharmacotherapy products available on prescription only throughout 2020-21.

2. Information and analysis:

Smoking is the main cause of preventable illness, disability and premature death in England, it also accounts for half the difference in life expectancy between the most affluent and most deprived groups within society. In Derbyshire, it is a key issue with 13.9% of adults smoking compared to the England average of 14.4% (APS method, 2018). Smoking is a key contributor to health inequalities with a prevalence of 23.3% in Derbyshire (England 25.4%) in routine and manual workers (APS method, 2018).

In Derbyshire 16.2% of pregnant women are smoking at time of delivery, compared to the England average of 10.6% (2018-19 data). The prevalence remains even higher in people with mental health conditions, where more than 25% of adults in Derbyshire with a serious mental illness smoke.

In Derbyshire, during 2016-17 there were 8,326 smoking attributable hospital admissions and the number of deaths during 2014-16 is estimated to be attributable to smoking was 3,991. The prevalence of smoking varies considerably across the county, from 9.3%, in North East Derbyshire to 18.2% in Bolsover, the highest in the county (APS method, 2018).

Live Life Better Derbyshire (LLBD) provides an evidence-based stop smoking service to support smokers who want to quit smoking. It is the most effective method of quitting smoking, with smokers four times more likely to quit smoking with a stop smoking service than if they tried to quit on their own. The support provided by the LLBD stop smoking service consists of behavioural support (advice on quitting, setting a date to quit and dealing

with withdrawal symptoms/cravings) and advice and access to smoking cessation pharmacotherapy products.

There are a range of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy products available to help smokers quit smoking including nicotine replacement therapy (e.g. patches or gum) which are provided directly by LLBD, and others such as bupropion and varenicline which are only available on prescription. A local pathway exists to allow smokers to access these bupropion and varenicline whilst receiving support from the LLBD stop smoking service.

The monies for smoking cessation pharmacotherapy products issued on a prescription did not originally transfer to local authorities when Public Health responsibilities transferred on 1 April 2013 under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and instead were included within CCG budgets. Following discussions with the Derby and Derbyshire CCG, it was agreed the County Council would hold the budgets associated with the cost of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy products issued on a prescription. Therefore the budgets were transferred from the Derby and Derbyshire CCG by the Department of Health to Derbyshire's ring-fenced Public Health Grant with effect from 1 April 2016. However prescriptions issued in general practice are initially charged to CCG prescribing budgets and therefore it is expected that CCG will invoice Derbyshire Public Health for these costs as they no longer hold the budget for prescriptions related to stop smoking.

3 Social Value considerations:

Supporting smokers to quit will support healthier communities and reduce health inequalities. Smoking is the leading cause of premature mortality nationally. Smoking accounts for half the difference in life expectancy between the most affluent and most deprived groups within society. Therefore reducing smoking prevalence can help to close the health inequality gap.

4. Financial considerations:

A maximum annual charge for 2020-21 has been agreed with the CCG based on historic prescribing costs. The table below provides the value for Derbyshire CCG:-

CCG	Maximum Annual Charge
Derbyshire CCG	£326,150

The cost will be met by the ring-fenced Public Health Grant budget.

5. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, and property and transport considerations.

6. Background papers: None

7. Key Decision: No

8. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report? No

9. Officer's recommendation:

That Cabinet approves the reimbursement of prescription only smoking cessation pharmacotherapy product costs to the Derby and Derbyshire CCG to a maximum cost of £326,150.

**Dean Wallace
Director of Public Health**