

FOI_002_20/21 – FOI request concerning “New Smoking Ban on Hospital Grounds”

I confirm that we hold the information as below.

This data is to be used as part of a study into how different NHS trusts look to address the issue of smoking on hospital/other medical premises and how strict the consequences are per each individual trust

- 1. I was wondering if you could please tell me how your Trust plans to enforce the new smoking ban on hospital grounds once it takes effect in April.**



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Disclosure_DRAFT_V0
2 -Smoking Vaping Pc

- 2. Secondly for those caught disobeying the ban, if they are to be fined as a result, how much exactly would they have to pay out?**

Signage is available on Trust sites. There is currently no policy for fining people. Breaches of the smoking policy by patients are to be reported to the relevant service manager, (or their representative), of the relevant clinical/non clinical area.

The Manager should be informed of the event and decide upon appropriate action and seek support from Security and if necessary the Police depending on the level of risk. The Trust recognises the challenges that may present as a result of asking patients or visitors on Trust premises not to smoke.

A polite request to stop smoking on the premises should always be the first step accompanied by a clear explanation of the policy and it's rational. However, a risk assessment should be made in terms of who and how the request to refrain from smoking should be approached. A member of staff should avoid putting themselves at risk of violence or aggression and they should therefore seek assistance from Security [if available] if they are concerned about approaching the person or if the risk to fire safety or violence against a member of staff is deemed to be a significant risk then the Police may need to be involved.

Trust Policy is supported by a Standard Operating Procedure and this provides guidance for staff/managers on helping to enforce the Policy.

- 3. Thirdly, does your trust currently offer any on-site smoking cessation methods to encourage people to quit or seek an alternative to traditional cigarettes (such as e-cigarettes)? Would these also have to be purchased or would they be distributed free of charge?**

Some in-patients services have access to NRT products to support patients to quit. Our Trust Wellbeing Practitioner service can provide support and sign-posting to employees wishing to quit smoking/accessing NRT. However, alternatives are not provided by the Trust for employees.



