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**Partner update – Public Health**

The Argyll and Bute HSCP Public Health team is pleased to provide an update on three areas of work: Money Counts Training, Smoke Free Hospital Ground's Legislation and Scotland's Suicide Prevention Strategy Consultation.

**Money Counts Level 1 Training Course**

**The Money Counts Level 1 Training** is short information awareness sessions, delivered in partnership with Young Carers and Child Poverty at Argyll and Bute HSCP (Health and Social Care Partnership) and the Argyll and Bute Health Improvement Team.

The Course Aim

- Increase understanding of poverty and its impact
- Increase confidence to ask about money worries
- Increase knowledge of support services for money matters

Six courses have been delivered online with a total of 21 attendees from a variety of the HSCP and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations throughout Argyll and Bute. Attendees reported an increase in confidence in ability to talk with someone about money issues after the session.

**For more information contact:**

Heather.McAdam@nhs.scot

**Smoke Free Hospital Ground's Legislation**

The current NHS Highland Policy prohibits smoking on hospital grounds ([https://www.nhshwellbeingatwork.scot.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/NHS\\_Highland-Smoke\\_Free\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.nhshwellbeingatwork.scot.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/NHS_Highland-Smoke_Free_Policy.pdf)). The Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Act 2016 added new legislation to The Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005<sup>[3]</sup> to strengthen adherence to NHS Board policies.

The 2005 Act made it an offence to smoke in wholly or substantially enclosed public spaces, which included smoking inside a hospital building. The additional legislation creates new offences; permitting others to smoke in the no-smoking area outside hospital buildings and smoking in this no-smoking area. The no-smoking area outside a hospital building is specified as 15 meters from the entrance.

The main aims of introducing a formalised no-smoking area around hospital buildings are to:

- support the de-normalisation of smoking;
- help reduce the use of tobacco across the population;
- prevent or reduce exposure to second-hand smoke; and
- ensure the NHS in Scotland is exemplar in the promotion of good public health.

All hospitals will display signage to raise awareness of the legislation which will come into effect on the **5<sup>th</sup> of September 2022**.

Anyone who has quit smoking or tried to quit knows how hard it can be. The Argyll and Bute Smoke-Free Service is here to help with network of trained Smoke-Free Advisers who can provide FREE advice and support to anyone who is thinking about stopping smoking.

There is a range of specialist support options to suit everyone who is motivated to quit or cut down which includes;

- Specialist Advisers
- Regular support, tailored to your needs
- Ongoing help throughout the process of quitting
- Quit Smoking Medication
- Cut down to quit plan
- Working with Community Pharmacists
- Go Smoke Free at home and in your car

This link will take you to a referral page where your details will be passed to your local adviser: [Contact Us | Smoke Free Highland \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#) or you can contact the Stop Smoking Adviser for your area directly. Their contact details are below:

**Bute:**

Mandy Allison  
Tel.01700501521

**Cowal:**

Kate Paton Tel.01369708349 or  
Kathy Graham Tel.07972678923

**Helensburgh and Lomond:**

Sherry Burns Tel. 07795612590

**Kintyre:**

Caroline Glen  
Tel. 07812485058

**Mid Argyll, Carradale and Muasdale:**

Jill Denton Tel.07707868351

**Oban, Lorn and Islands:**

Sherry Burns Tel: 07795612590

**For more information contact:**

[Lynn.Garrett3@nhs.scot](mailto:Lynn.Garrett3@nhs.scot)

**Scotland's Suicide Prevention Strategy Consultation**

The Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) will publish a new Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan for Scotland, in September 2022.

This strategy will be long term, outcomes focused and will replace the Suicide Prevention Action Plan which was published in 2018 which is currently delivered through the National Suicide Prevention Leadership Group (NSPLG).

The Scottish Government are seeking views on the draft Strategy and Action Plan with the consultation open until midnight on Sunday 21 August 2022. The consultation is hosted via Citizen Space, the Scottish Government's online consultation platform. You can access the consultation using this link: <https://consult.gov.scot/mental-health-unit/suicide-prevention-strategy-for-scotland>

You may also wish to read the consultation document which contains the same questions as the online version but provides the option to respond 'offline'. This document can be accessed using this link: <https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781804357040>

If you have any questions, you can contact the Strategy development team directly by emailing: [contact@suicidepreventionengagement.scot](mailto:contact@suicidepreventionengagement.scot)

Following the launch of the new National Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan in September, Argyll and Bute Suicide Prevention Strategic Group aims to develop a new Argyll and Bute specific Suicide Prevention Action Plan with the input of the wider Argyll and Bute community. The Argyll and Bute Suicide Prevention Strategic Group is also working to ensure that the membership of the steering group has representation from professionals, groups and organisations supporting those who face higher risk factors and are from higher risk groups for suicide.

**For more information contact:**

[Heather.McAdam@nhs.scot](mailto:Heather.McAdam@nhs.scot)