The scale of the problem in the UK







Around
7 million
people currently smoke



>50 %
will die from smoking-related diseases

In 2020 there were 80,000 deaths due to COVID-19 and 94,000 due to tobacco

The real costs of tobacco



An estimated

>£7bn

would be returned to families and communities if smoking were obsolete



Smoking affects disadvantaged people more



Smokers spend

>£23 per week



>1 million

people, including 250,000 children, live in poverty due to spending on tobacco Smoking is linked to housing:



~30% local authority housing renters

22% private renters

8% mortgage-free homeowners

Smoking uptake in children



Most established smokers first took up smoking in adolescence

Smoking among young people is twice as common among those from disadvantaged backgrounds



5% of 15-year-olds smoke regularly in England, 7% in Scotland and 8% in Wales



Campaigns and education

Campaigns like Stoptober are highly effective but national spending in England on **anti-smoking** campaigns has fallen from £23.38 million in 2008 to £1.78 million in 2019



STOP TOBER
is estimated to
have initiated

2.1 million quit attempts between 2012 and 2019

Public space smoking restrictions



Smoke-free legislation in the UK was introduced in **2007**



>80%
people
support smoke-free
outdoor children's
play areas



25% of NHS acute trusts have outdoor smoking shelters

31% do not enforce smoking bans on site



Why treat tobacco addiction?

Quit attempts have dropped



Smokers are **30% more likely** to be admitted to hospital than non-smokers

It shortens life for those with mental health conditions: **16 years for men, 12 years for women**



People from LGBT communities are **1.4 times more likely** to smoke

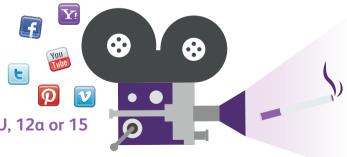


Smoking on our screens

> Tobacco imagery in films, television, music videos, gaming and social media exposes young children to millions of images of tobacco



> The majority of tobacco imagery in popular UK films occurs in those rated U, 12a or 15





GP intervention is key



of smokers visit their of smokers visit their GP each year but only:



receive advice on smoking



are offered referral to stop smoking services



are offered prescription medication and few are advised on e-cigarettes



If GPs prescribe and refer for smoking cessation:

smoking prevalence would decrease from 8.7% to 6.2% by 2030



incidence of serious smoking-related disease would decrease by 15% and premature death by 16% over 20 years

NHS spend would reduce by 16% on smoking-related disease

