

Data Provision Notice

Local Stop Smoking Services



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Background

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Act) gives NHS England statutory powers, under section 259(1)(a), to require data from health or social care bodies, or organisations that provide publicly funded health or adult social care in England, where it has been directed to establish an information system by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

The data, as specified by NHS England in this published Data Provision Notice, is required to support a direction from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to NHS England. Therefore, organisations that are in scope of the notice are legally required, under section 259(5) of the Act, to provide the data in the form and manner specified below.

Purpose

Smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death and disease in England and is one of the most significant factors that impacts upon health inequalities and ill health, particularly cancer, coronary heart disease and respiratory disease.

According to research published in 2017, treating smoking-related illness is estimated to cost the NHS £2.6bn a year, with the wider economic costs reaching over £13bn once factors such as lost productivity, tobacco litter and smoking-related house fires are considered (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-smoking-to-the-nhs-in-england2015/cost-of-smoking-to-the-nhs-in-england-2015>). Reducing smoking prevalence therefore remains a key local public health priority and a national focus.

Local Stop Smoking Services offer support to help people quit smoking. This can include intensive support through group therapy or one-to-one support. The support is designed to be widely accessible within the local community and is provided by trained personnel, such as specialist smoking cessation advisers and trained nurses and pharmacists.

¹NHS England has a statutory obligation to keep collections under review on an ongoing basis. As such a review date must be set at which point NHS England will review the continuing need for this collection.

Funding is provided by the Department of Health and Social Care to implement Local SSS through Public Health grants (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-healthgrants-to-local-authorities-2024-to-2025>). Additional funding has been made available for smoking cessation specifically (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-stopsmoking-services-and-support-additional-funding>).

NHS England collects data submitted by local authorities on the Stop Smoking Services provided. This aggregate data is published by NHS England on a quarterly basis to inform the public, service providers, and the Department of Health and Social Care about the progress of the service. The data is published on the NHS England webpages (<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-nhs-stopsmoking-services-in-england>), and the Department of Health and Social Care webpages (<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statistics-on-nhs-stop-smoking-services-in-england-april-2023-to-september-2023-q2>). The data collection and publication follow the financial year (1st April – 31st March).

¹ see section 255(9) for definition, includes reference to CQC and NICE

¹ unless the request falls within section 256(2)(c) in which case we can only request, not require.

Benefits

- Local government and health services can use this information to inform commissioning and planning decisions to tackle tobacco use and improve the health of local communities.
- Comparison of local authorities against others in the region and share good practice.
- Benchmarking of local authorities against the England or regional average.
- Displaying an accurate representation of public fund use, specifically the Public Health grant and Additional Funding (see previous section).
- Documenting the impact of any local, regional, or national changes to Stop Smoking Service provision, for instance increase funding or opening of new centres.
- Comparison of demographic reach, e.g., age brackets, socio-economic groups, ethnicities, gender, sexual orientation.
- Comparison of chosen intervention types and relative success of each.
- Documenting use and effectiveness of different stop-smoking aids.
- Demonstrating the use of free prescriptions by smokers.
- Stop Smoking Services data is used for the Tobacco Programme in relation to Prevention work. The Tobacco Programme have stated that the Stop Smoking Services dataset and questions are used in the following ways:
 - The questions have helped inform the patient level Tobacco Dependence collection.
 - The Stop Smoking Services publication outputs are used for:
 - Business cases and modelling,
 - Comparing programme outputs and outcomes,
 - Highlighting where LA Stop Smoking Services are being provided,
 - Putting Tobacco Dependence data in the context of the LA Stop Smoking, and
 - Demand and resource planning of stop-smoking aids for subprogrammes.

Legal basis for collection, analysis, publication and dissemination

Collection and analysis

NHS England has been directed by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012; to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of the information specified for this service. The direction and accompanying requirements specification are published on the NHS England website:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-anddata-provision-notice/secretary-of-state-directions/local-stop-smoking-services-datasetdirection-2017>

This information is required by NHS England under section 259(1)(a) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

In line with section 259(5) of the Act, all organisations in scope, in England, must comply with the requirement and provide information to NHS England in the form, manner and period specified in this Data Provision Notice.

This Notice is issued in accordance with the procedure published as part of an NHS England duty under section 259(8).

Publication

Under section 260(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, NHS England must publish all information it obtains by complying with a direction under section 254 or a request under section 255 of the Act unless the information falls within section 260(2).

NHS England publish quarterly 'provisional' information on the number of people setting a quit date and the number who successfully quit at the 4-week follow-up. A larger annual report is also published with finalised data for the year (April to March). The publications contain in depth analyses of the key measures of the service including pregnant women, ethnic group, gender, sexual orientation, age group, financial year, and socio-economic classification. The analysis is available by intervention type and setting, smoking aid, Local Authority (LA), Commissioning Region, and Sub-Integrated Care Board. Reports are published here [Statistics on Stop Smoking Services in England](#)

Dissemination

These data are not shared or disseminated as the data is published.

Transparency

NHS England has issued a Transparency Notice for this data collection as required under Article 14 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

Data providers in scope of this Data Provision Notice are required under Article 13 of the UK GDPR to provide their own transparency information to their patients (data subjects) and can link to the NHS England Transparency Notice to provide additional information.

The details of any data disseminations made by NHS England from this collection will be regularly published in the data uses register: <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/data-accessrequest-service-dars/data-uses-register> which is available on the NHS England website.

Persons consulted

Following receipt of a direction to establish a system to collect Stop Smoking Services, NHS England has, as required under section 258 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, consulted with the following persons:

- the requesting organisation: Department of Health & Social Care
- Local Authorities
- System Suppliers

The consultation with regard to the uplift of the Direction Annex was led by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and facilitated by DHSC and NHS England. Local Authorities and system suppliers were consulted on the proposed changes to the data collection between the 5th and 22nd September 2023, offering an opportunity to undertake a survey to submit their comments and feedback. 75 responses were received.

Feedback was collated and summarised and used to inform the final changes to the data collection and whether the new fields would be mandatory or optional to complete.

Scope of the collection

Under section 259(1)(a) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, this Notice is served in accordance with the procedure published as part of the NHS England duty under section 259(8) on the following persons:

- Local Authorities, and any bodies established with the function of arranging for the provision of Stop Smoking Services as commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care using Public Health grants or additional smoking cessation funding,
- Any system supplier commissioned to collate data on behalf of a Local Authority.

The organisation types specified in the above Scope must to comply with the Form, Manner, and Period requirements below.

Form and Manner of the collection

The data to be collected is aggregate data, and is as detailed in the Local Stop Smoking Services Data Set Direction 2017 – Requirements Specification - here:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/corporate-information-and-documents/directions-anddata-provision-notices/secretary-of-state-directions/local-stop-smoking-services-datasetdirection-2017>.

The data is collated on an Excel template and submitted to NHS England via the Strategic Data Collection Service (SDCS) online data collection platform.

Further information on SDCS is available here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-andinformation/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/strategic-data-collectionservicesdcs>

Further information on the SSS Data Collection is available here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/dataand-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/stop-smoking-servicescollection>

Period of the collection

NHS England (previously NHS Digital and HSCIC) began publishing the Stop Smoking Service data in 2005. Data is submitted on a quarterly basis. Submission is at least 42 days

after each financial quarter ends. There are 3 resubmission periods for quarters 1 to 3 prior to the quarter 4 collection.

The Data Collection service Stop Smoking Service pages, which also displays the current financial year timetable, can be viewed here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/datacollections-and-data-sets/data-collections/stop-smoking-services-collection>

Data are published on the NHS England website and can be found here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/statistics-on-nhs-stopsmoking-services-in-england>

Data quality

Data quality validations are written into the Excel data submission template to ensure the data is validated at the point of submission. Further checks are performed on the final aggregated data to ensure sum totals match across the publication.

Burden of the collection

Steps taken by NHS England to minimise the burden of collection

NHS England has a statutory duty under section 253(2) of the Act to seek to minimise the burden it imposes on others. In seeking to meet these obligations in relation to this collection, NHS England has:

- Sought to minimise the burden on Local Authorities and system suppliers by using the same template format as previous collections, with additional collection boxes included. Requesting information in a new format may have increased the burden on system suppliers and thus increase the cost for Local Authorities.
- Shared copies of the new template for submissions as early as possible to allow for feedback and to allow for system suppliers and Local Authorities to create new processes where necessary.
- Responded promptly to queries regarding the new template for submission and made corrections or changes where required.

In addition, in support of its obligation under 265(3) of the Act, NHS England has an assessment process to validate and challenge the level of burden incurred through introducing new information standards, collections and extractions.

This process is carried out by the Data Standards Assurance Service (DSAS) which assures burden assessment evidence as part of the overarching Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) approval process. The DAPB, acting under authority of the Secretary of State, oversees the assurance, approval and publication of information standards and data collections for the health and social care system in England.

NHS England initiated a burden assessment however, only one response was received. Therefore, DSAS were unable to reach an indicative burden estimate.

