

## Report to Hackney Health and Wellbeing Board

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| <b>Date: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017</b> |   |
| <b>Subject:</b>                            | Illegal Tobacco Roadshow – Summary Report   |
| <b>Report From:</b>                        | Ophelia Chatterjee, Public Health graduate trainee, London Borough of Hackney   |
| <b>Summary:</b>                            | <p>In July the Hackney Public Health team, in partnership with Hackney Trading Standards, hosted a roadshow as part of a London-wide campaign to highlight the harm caused by the sale of illegal or cheap tobacco.</p> <p>The campaign, supported by London Councils and London Trading Standards, aimed to improve public understanding of the different types of illegal tobacco and the consequences of supporting the trade, and to gather information on public attitudes and premises where illegal tobacco may be being sold.</p> <p>The event was supported by BWY Canine, a company that employs dog handlers and sniffer dogs to help detect places where illegal tobacco is hidden.</p> <p>During the roadshow, officers from Trading Standards and Public Health conducted a survey with 54 members of the public to understand better attitudes towards and experience of illegal tobacco and knowledge of premises that sell it.</p> <p>Over two thirds (68.5% on average) of respondents agreed with statements about the harm caused by illegal tobacco such as ‘Something should be done to stop the sale of illegal tobacco’ and ‘Illegal tobacco makes it easier for children to start smoking’.</p> <p>These results, though far from representative and based on a very small sample, are promising in indicating that when engaged on the issue there is likely to be widespread public support for the idea that not only is illegal tobacco a public health concern, but one which should be acted on.</p> <p>Twenty eight individuals were willing to share information about where they suspected illegal tobacco was being sold in the borough. This resulted in enforcement action on three premises, two of which were found to be selling illegal cigarettes and loose tobacco.</p> <p>Both premises will have their license reviewed.</p> |

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|                         | <p>The roadshow was also used to publicise local smoking cessation services, with representatives from one local pharmacy provider running a stall. They spoke to around 70 people on the day, of whom 8 signed up to the Hackney Stop Smoking Service.</p> <p>Across London, 11 boroughs participated in the roadshow and in total 554 survey responses were obtained. A report is being compiled and will be shared at the next pan London Illegal Tobacco meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September.</p> |
| <b>Recommendations:</b> | To note the report.  |
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### **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial considerations arising out of this summary report.

### **Legal Considerations**

There are no legal implications arising out of this summary report.