Health and Wellbeing Board



12 June 2025 Vaping Motion on Notice

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Health and wellbeing board 8 point position on vaping:



- 1. Key role in driving down rates of smoking in Plymouth.
- 2. Vaping with e cigarettes is 95% less harmful than smoking tobacco.
- 3. Protection from potential harms of vaping by restrictions on their sale and marketing to children
- 4. Advice to people who smoke tobacco is to consider switching from smoking to vaping with e-cigarettes.
- 5. Vaping is not risk free, so our advice is: if you don't smoke, don't vape.
- 6. Ongoing surveillance and research is crucial to detect long-term impacts on individuals and communities. If any new risks emerge, or guidance changes, we will revise our position.
- 7. Approach involves a wide range of partners.
- 8. We need clear and consistent messages to the public.

PLYMOUTH

Tel: 08000274431

Website: Plymouth substance

PREVENTION OF HARMFUL VAPING* (PHV) PARTNERSHIP OFFER - ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 / 2025. Version 1.1

Response

1:1 intervention with YP

Incident / Issue

Response to

Incident

Intervention

2	Preventative action focussed on an individual / group	Targeted individual / group support	PCC Community Youth Email: caroline.storer@plymouth.gov.uk Tel: 01752 306731 As of October 1 2024 Youth Service has 1FTE Vaping Worker; TCS are currently recruiting – but will respond to referral request.	Evidence suggesting concern for an individual or a group	This term aims to reflect a range of behaviours where there is very limited or unreliable evidence / research on safety of use OR use that does not comply with regulatory / legal requirements that are in place. For example;	
3	Criminal activity or exploitation:	Support and / or intervention	Police childcentredpolicingplymouth@devonandcor nwall.pnn.police.uk michelle.evans@devonandcornwall.pnn.polic	Always inform Police on suspicion or intelligence linked to exploitation or criminal activity –particularly serious criminal activity	Vaping associated with recreational use rather than a stop smoking intervention Vaping by under 18's – where the evidence on safety and possible harms is not clear Use of vape devices and products that do not comply to regulatory legislation Use of vape substances controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act Use of vape devices and products on the school estate / setting	
4	Vape testing	Access to relatively quick testing of vape products (e-liquids)	Police childcentredpolicingplymouth@devonandcor nwall.pnn.police.uk michelle.evans@devonandcornwall.pnn.polic e.uk	Best used to determine substances implicated in unusual effects from incidents In support of Police operations		
5	Under-age sales	Supports enforcement targeting	Trading Standards tradingstandards@devon.gov.uk	Intelligence enables tactical targeting based on accumulation of evidence	Other • Seymour (Hamoaze) House: FTE role focused on YP in ACE System (work in	
6	Universal Education and Awareness in schools	Offer of education and awareness sessions re vaping (priority year 8 and year 9). Additional sessions available on other drugs or problem substance use issues	The Zone	Evidence of effective use: Part of spiral curriculum Avoid assembly only – part of wider approach Use your school survey data	progress) Vaping: the facts PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK this site has a video / leaflets / posters. Michael House – Health and Wellbeing in Schools PCC Officer – curriculum advice	
7	System 'stewarding'	Termly: updating, learning and networking; support to system	PCC Public Health odph@plymouth.gov.uk	Shared endeavour across system Situation is dynamic System /response needs to be agile and adaptive	and also Healthy Child Quality Mark. Plymouth City Council Public Health. November 2024	

Lead & Contact

The Children Society (TCS)

Consideration

Consider 'referral' if

suspended (not just at

PEX)



*'Prevention of harmful vaping' (PHV)

City wide approach 2: Education Place based improvement plan





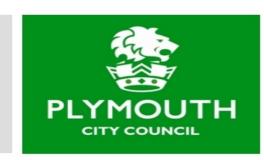


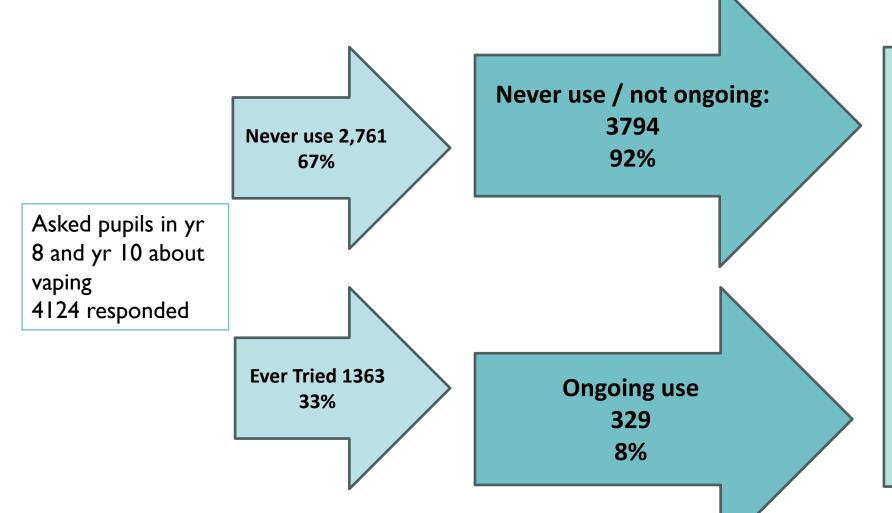


Plymouth – Education Place Based Improvement Plan



Vaping in Plymouth 2024





Prevention?

76% of those trying do not go on to use regularly.

Decisions <u>reported by</u> <u>year 8 and 10 indicate a</u> high level of prevention outcomes.

Enforcement activity in Plymouth



	23/24	24/25
Premises subject to underage sales test purchases	22	12
Sales made	3	2
Follow up action	5 x Service Warning letters and advice	3 x Service Warning Letters and advice
Seizure of illegal vape ops	8	2
Illegal vapes seized	3163	727
Enforcement action	1 ongoing investigation	1 ongoing investigation

Tobacco and Vapes Bill 2025 Key measures



Measures introduced	When?	
Disposable vapes ban	1 June 2025	
Powers to extend smoke free places to specific outdoor public places	Further regulations needed following consultation	
Powers to create vape and heated tobacco free places		
Powers to regulate marketing of vapes		
Ban the sale of tobacco cigarettes to anyone born on or after 1 Jan 2009	1 Jan 2027	

Tobacco and Vapes Bill 2025 Other measures



Measures introduced	When?	
Ban on vape sponsorship and advertising	2 months after Bill is passed	
Introduce age of sale restrictions (18+) for non nicotine vapes	6 months after Bill is passed	
Ban on vape vending machines		
Enabling Trading Standards to issue Fixed Penalty Notices		
Stop free distribution of vapes		
Powers to establish new registrations system for tobacco cigarettes and vapes	Further regulations needed following consultation	
Powers to create a licensing system for tobacco cigarettes and vapes		



"The key points about vaping (e-cigarettes) can be easily summarised. If you smoke, vaping is much safer; if you don't smoke, don't vape; marketing vapes to children is utterly unacceptable."

Professor Sir Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer for England

6 questions to assess vape stories in the media



- 1. Have studies quoted been published in an academic journal and undergone peer review?
- 2. What type of study methodology and what type of claim? Causal relationship?
- 3. What is the sample size?
- 4. Critical: do the studies consider the history of smoking tobacco among participants?
- 5. What was the length of follow up and how does it match against claims in the study?
- 6. How do the study conclusions compare to published systematic reviews and official government evidence updates?

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Is switching from smoking to vaping safer?





• In the short and medium term, vaping poses a small fraction of the risks of smoking

- Vaping is not risk-free, particularly for people who have never smoked
- Significantly lower exposure to harmful substances from vaping compared with smoking
- Similar or higher exposure to harmful substances from vaping compared with not using nicotine products
- No significant increase of toxicant biomarkers after short-term secondhand exposure
 to vaping among people who do not smoke or vape

Recommendations, that the Health and wellbeing board:



1. re-affirm their support for the Vaping position statement 2019 (as amended in September 2023) and confirm that in remains fit for purpose to date.

2. notes that "this is a dynamic situation, and we will continue to review and respond to new evidence as it emerges" (Vaping Position Statement 2023).

- 3. notes and commends work building a city-wide approach to vaping as presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2024 and work subsequently undertaken under the Schools Place Based Improvement Plan.
- 4. Acknowledges the requests of the Motion on Notice heard at Full Council in January 2025 as actioned.