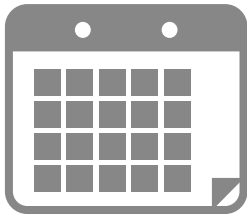




Health and Work

Spotlight on alcohol, drugs and tobacco

Alcohol



17m
working days lost annually through absences caused by alcohol



£7bn
Estimated costs in lost productivity through unemployment and sickness related to alcohol



72%
of people entering treatment for alcohol problems were not in paid employment at the start of their treatment



50k+
individuals in Great Britain in 2013 were claiming incapacity benefits with a primary disabling condition of alcohol misuse

Drugs



People with severe and multiple disadvantage (substance misuse, homelessness, mental health and offending history) are likely to be the furthest from the labour market and need the most support around education, training and employment

In 2014/15

84% of individuals seeking treatment in England for opiate problems were not in paid employment at the start of their treatment

In 2013

34k+ individuals claiming incapacity benefits had a primary disabling condition of drugs misuse

Claimants are hesitant to self-disclose substance misuse for fear that it could affect their benefit entitlement



employers are reluctant to employ people with a known history of substance misuse

Employment and volunteering leads to better treatment outcomes, and reduced relapse rates



Smoking

Smoking affects organisational productivity



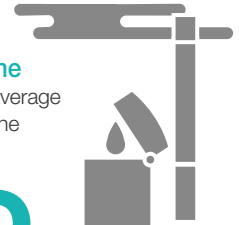
Smokers take between 1 and 2.7 more sick days off per year than non-smokers



Smokers may also take more breaks during the working day

This equates to

136 hours of lost productivity time every year for the average smoker – costing the average business



£1,522 in unproductive wages

Many smokers would welcome the support of their employers in helping to quit



71% say they would find free information on quitting smoking useful



67% say they would like their employers to promote campaigns like Stoptober and No Smoking Day



78% would like information about their local stop smoking service for support