

## **COMMITTEE ON TOXICITY OF CHEMICALS IN FOOD, CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (COT)**

### **Shisha smoking**

1. A Member of the committee had raised the question of whether there were up-to-date risk assessments for shisha smoking, including for neighbours or bystanders who may be exposed to the smoke involuntarily. It was noted that there had been changes to the legislation on tobacco products with effect from May 2016 (the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016). The Committee presumed that shisha smoking would not be permitted in indoor public areas, as this was a product that was smoked, but that there would be no specific control on the use of shisha outdoors, and asked to be provided with an overview at a future meeting on what was and was not legal.

2. The attached document is the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health guidance on Shisha bars.

[http://www.cieh.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Policy/Public\\_health/Smokefree\\_work\\_places\\_and\\_public\\_places/Smokefree\\_Shisha\\_bars\\_guidance\(1\).pdf](http://www.cieh.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Policy/Public_health/Smokefree_work_places_and_public_places/Smokefree_Shisha_bars_guidance(1).pdf)

3. This document is a supplementary guidance for local authority regulatory officers on dealing with non-compliance in Shisha bars. It is intended to support the successful implementation of the smokefree legislation which came into force in England on the 1 July 2007. This document gives a summary of the legislative controls and the health hazards associated with the use of Shisha Pipes.

4. In addition, the Committee requested a summary of the available information on exposures from shisha. This would be considerable work and will be addressed when secretariat time allows.

**PHE Secretariat**

**November 2016**