Eight in ten smokers start by age 19

Cigarettes kill one in every two long term users

Tobacco smoke contains over 70 cancer-causing chemicals, including:
- Arsenic (Poison)
- Formaldehyde (Poison)
- Polonium-210 (Radioactive)
- Benzene (Poison)

100,000 people in the UK die every year from smoking
That’s as many people as the population of Oldham or Southend

Smoking rates have come down

- 1952 CR-UK part-funded British Doctors Study is first to demonstrate smoking link to lung cancer
- 1965 Advertising of cigarettes on television ends in the UK
- 1980s Tax rises for tobacco products
- 2000s Media campaigns and services to help people quit
- 2003 Billboard and print advertising prohibited
- 2007 Smokefree policies introduced across the UK
- Point of sale displays removed in all shops, large (2012) and small (2015)

Smoking rates don’t come down on their own
During the 1990s, there were periods when smoking rates stopped declining, and, among children, were rising

Children smoking
Over 100,000 11-15 year olds in the UK were regular smokers in 2013

Notes
Adult smoking rates use Great Britain figures
Child smoking rates use England figures
Number of regular childhood smokers (at least one cigarette a week) based on England figures

Let’s beat cancer sooner
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