Author's response to reviews

Title: 'People pull the rug from under your feet': barriers to successful public health programmes

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir/Madam

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**People pull the rug from under your feet’: barriers to successful public health programmes**

We were delighted to have the opportunity to address these final comments of the reviewer.

In responding to the reviewer we have addressed all the points as follows:

**Ethics**

We have included the following:

**Ethics**

Since the research was community-based and did not involve NHS patients or staff, it was neither necessary nor appropriate to submit the protocol for inspection to a NHS ethics committee. However, we ensured that our research practice was consistent with University of Edinburgh research ethics framework and with guidance provided by professional bodies, such as the British Psychological Society, the British Sociological Association and the Social Research Association. All respondents were provided with a written information sheet and signed consent forms." (p 5)

**Purpose of the paper**

We have ensured continuity between the purpose of the paper articulated in the abstract and in the main body of the paper and have revised as follows:

This paper draws on the qualitative process evaluation of a community-based initiative *Breathing Space*, which set out to tackle smoking in a low income area of Scotland, in order to explore user perceptions of key factors affecting implementation, and in particular to explore the implications of participant...
knowledge and expertise for programme stability and continuity. (p.2 abstract and main body page 3)

We hope that you will find the revised paper suitable for publication, and look forward to hearing from you in due course. We appreciate the quality of the feedback and the care that has been give to the process by the reviewer and editor.

Yours faithfully,

Deborah Ritchie