Appendix 1
For the Health Survey for England 2008 analysis, we used the derived variable cigsta3. This is a three category variable non-smokers, ex-smokers, current smokers. It is derived from a number of questions asked in the Health Survey for England as follows:

If the participant
• Reported never smoking in the constituent questions (“May I just check, have you ever smoked a cigarette, a cigar or a pipe?”, “Have you ever smoked cigarettes?” (the latter only asked to those who have smoked but does not smoke cigarettes nowadays)), they were coded as a never regular smoker on this variable.
• Using: “Did you smoke cigarettes regularly, that is at least one cigarette a day, or did you smoke them only occasionally?”, if participants answered “regularly”, they are coded as an ex-smoker. If they responded “occasionally” or “only tried once or twice”, they were categorised as a never regular smoker
• If participants answered “yes” to “Do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays?” this was taken as “current smoker” in the variable cigsta3.
• If participants gave no answer/ refused to any of the constituent questions, this was carried forward to cigsta3
• If participants responded don’t know to any of the constituent questions, this was carried forward to cigsta3
• If participants answered not applicable to “Do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays?” this was carried forward to cigsta3.