
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	28 September 2023
Report By:	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	Report No:	LS/098/23
Contact Officer:	Iain Strachan	Contact No:	01475 712147
Subject:	Disposable Vapes – Notice of Motion by Councillor Reynolds		

1.0 PURPOSE AND CONSIDERATIONS

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor Reynolds, countersigned by Councillor Armstrong, relative to disposable vapes.
- 1.3 The terms of the Notice of Motion are set out in appendix 1 to the report.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion by Councillor Reynolds.

Iain Strachan
Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

Appendix 1

Inverclyde Council welcomes the decision by the Scottish Government to consult on a ban on disposable vapes and the intimation that the UK government may do likewise.

Council is asked to note reports of concern regarding vaping and a surge in children and adolescents using e-cigarettes. Current evidence shows that vaping products are not for children, young people or non-smokers and are useful in adults only as a potential route towards stopping smoking. There is strong evidence from the last 5 years that e-cigarettes, which can be bright and colourful and come in a wide variety of e-liquid flavours, potentially alter and/or slow cognitive and physical development in children and young people. Recent evidence further demonstrates that the long-term risks of vaping cannot yet be definitively confirmed by research studies but it should be considered that these products are harmful and are a risk to the long-term health of young people. Therefore, Council is asked to note the importance of highlighting these potential risks for future generations, locally and across the country, to avoid the vaping industry creating life-long nicotine addicts, in the same way as the tobacco industry did.

The Council is asked to write to the appropriate Scottish Minister asking them to urgently consider legislation concerning the sale of vaping products to be in line with that for tobacco products, so that the sale of nicotine products (not used for the NHS Scotland smoking cessation programmes) is consistent.

The Council is asked to write to the appropriate officials at the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland Public Health asking them to urgently consider regulation of vaping products, including product strengths, availability and advertising.

The Council asks officers to work with partners in Police Scotland and NHS to explore what actions can be taken by the Council to address these concerns, including (i) the expansion of test purchasing to include the sale of age restricted vaping products from retail outlets, (ii) the possibility of introducing an Inverclyde retailers charter that will stop cash sales of vaping products, in an effort to reduce proxy purchasing for underage young people, and (iii) the continuation of health awareness programmes to educate communities over the risk associated with vaping, with officers to bring a report forward to a future meeting of the relevant Committee.

Proposed – Councillor Reynolds

Seconded – Councillor Armstrong