

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1379
Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/02927/23

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

21 November 2023

Dear Jack Sargeant,

Thank you for your letter of 26 October regarding Petition P-06-1379 in relation to the ban of single-use vapes in Wales.

I share the concerns raised in this petition and agree action is needed on single-use vapes to protect public health, prevent the wasteful use of resources and stop these products being littered in our environment. This is why the Welsh Government is currently consulting with the other UK nations on proposals to create a smokefree generation by raising the age of sale for tobacco. As part of this consultation, we are seeking views on proposals to restrict the supply and sale of disposable vaping products. The consultation is due to close on 6 December and can be accessed via the UK Government's website.

[Creating a smokefree generation and tackling youth vaping: your views - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)
(www.gov.uk)

I believe a collaborative, UK wide approach is essential for tackling such products and I recently met with Ministers and senior officials from across the UK in September to discuss how best to achieve this. It was agreed we would work together to tackle the impacts of single-use vapes, up to and including a ban. A UK wide working group has now been established to help gather evidence and develop our proposals.

The Welsh Government is also participating in a four nations consultation on Extended Producer Responsibility Reforms. This recognises the environmental impact of vapes and proposes a new category of equipment for vapes to ensure producers fully finance the cost of collection and treatment. I fully support this approach and would like to see the new Producer Responsibility controls introduced as quickly as possible.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The Welsh Government is clear the regulatory landscape in relation to vapes must change and I can assure you the Welsh Government will do all it can to address this issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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