



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP 2017/0203, 31 October 2017

Vaping

This pack has been prepared ahead of the debate to be held in Westminster Hall on Wednesday 1 November 2017 from 9.30-11am. The debate will be opened by Gareth Johnson MP.

The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

Dr Sarah Barber Nikki
Sutherland

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1. News items

BBC News Online

E-cigarettes: Cross-party group of MPs launches inquiry

25 October 2017

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-41740516>

The Times [subscription]

Tobacco giant targets £1bn in revenues for vaping products

25 October 2017

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/tobacco-giant-targets-1bn-in-revenues-for-vaping-products-8s9w2cg69>

Pulse

NICE to back use of e-cigarettes in new smoking cessation guidance

10 October 2017

<http://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/clinical/more-clinical-areas/respiratory-nice-to-back-use-of-e-cigarettes-in-new-smoking-cessation-guidance/20035437.article>

Independent

E-cigarettes containing nicotine linked to increased risk of heart attacks and stroke, study finds

12 September 2017

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/e-cigarettes-nicotine-heart-attack-stroke-increased-risk-health-smoking-blood-pressure-a7942391.html>

Telegraph

E-cigarette teen warnings unfounded, says Public Health England

29 August 2017

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/08/29/e-cigarette-teen-warnings-unfounded-says-public-health-england/>

BBC News Online

More than half of UK vapers 'have given up smoking'

8 May 2017

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-39823325>

Times [subscription]

E-cigarettes 'much safer than smoking tobacco'

7 February 2017

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/e-cigarettes-much-safer-than-smoking-tobacco-9bckrkg3c>

Guardian

E-cigarettes can help smokers quit, says study

Electronic cigarettes could help people stop smoking and are not associated with any serious side-effects, say researchers

13 September 2016

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/sep/13/electronic-cigarettes-can-help-smokers-quit-says-study>

2. Press releases

House of Commons Science and Technology Committee

E-cigarettes inquiry launched

25 October 2017

The Science and Technology Committee examine the impact of electronic cigarettes on human health (including their effectiveness as a stop-smoking tool), the suitability of regulations guiding their use, and the financial implications of a growing market on both business and the NHS.

- [Inquiry: E-cigarettes](#)
- [Science and Technology Committee](#)

Norman Lamb MP, Chair, said:

Almost 3 million people in the UK now use e-cigarettes, but there are still significant gaps in the research guiding their regulation and sale. They are seen by some as valuable tools that will reduce the number of people smoking 'conventional' cigarettes, and seen by others as 're-normalising' smoking for the younger generation.

We want to understand where the gaps are in the evidence base, the impact of the regulations, and the implications of this growing industry on NHS costs and the UK's public finances.

E-cigarette regulations

New rules for nicotine-containing electronic cigarettes and refill containers were introduced in May 2016 by the [Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016](#), implementing the EU [Tobacco Products Directive](#). In July 2017, the Government published its [Tobacco Control Plan](#).

It emphasised that the Department of Health would be monitoring the impact of e-cigarette regulations, while Public Health England would continue to provide evidence-based guidance on what is known, and unknown, about the risks of e-cigarettes relative to smoking.

Conventional smoking fell to 7.6 million adult smokers in the UK (16%) in 2016. The use of e-cigarettes has risen to an estimated 2.9 million adults, up from 0.7m in 2012.

Submitting written evidence

Submit written evidence via the [e-cigarettes inquiry page](#).

The Committee would welcome written submissions by Friday 8 December 2017 on the health, regulatory and financial implications of e-cigarettes that address the following points:

On health:

- The impact on human health of e-cigarettes—themselves and relative to 'conventional' smoking—and any gaps in the science knowledge-base in this area.

- The benefits and risks of e-cigarettes as a 'stop smoking' tool, any gaps in the knowledge-base on this, and whether any approaches are needed to tackle e-cigarette addiction.
- The uptake of e-cigarettes among young people and evidence on whether e-cigarettes play a role in 're-normalising' smoking.

On regulation:

- Whether there is any regulatory variation between the EU and UK, and across UK nations, and the implications of Brexit on regulation in this area.
- The effectiveness of regulation on the advertising and marketing of e-cigarettes.
- The impact to date of the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations on the vaping industry and on the prevalence of e-cigarettes.
- The safety of e-cigarette devices, and any safety regulation requirements.

On finance:

- The economic impact of the UK's e-cigarette industry.
- The public finances implications of e-cigarettes, including how the rise in e-cigarette consumption could affect NHS costs.

The Committee would also like to hear views on whether Government policy and regulation has kept up with the full range of 'smoking' and novel tobacco products (such as 'heat not burn') that are becoming available to the public, and if it takes account of their likely impact on human health.

British Psychological Society

E-cigarettes should be promoted as a method of stopping smoking

9 October 2017

This is the key message from a new BPS behaviour change report.

['Changing behaviour: Electronic cigarettes'](#) published this week is a new briefing that aims to provide guidance and education to those involved with smoking cessation.

The report also makes the following recommendations:

- Improve education about the relative harms of smoking, nicotine and e-cigarettes.
- Combine existing best practice, NHS Stop Smoking Services (SSS) with the most popular quitting method (e-cigarettes) to increase attractiveness of the SSS and further boost success rate. Offer e-cigarettes and technical support as part of the SSS and fund the services to support smokers to quit.

- Use policy interventions and fiscal measures to raise the cost of smoking and reduce the cost of e-cigarettes. Continue to increase taxes, smoke-free regulation and purchasing barriers for cigarettes but regulate the reduced risk product less heavily. For e-cigarettes, avoid taxation and 'vape-free' legislation and promote unrestricted advertising of factual information.
- Regulate to promote product development – allow e-cigarettes to further evolve and improve so they are safer, more appealing and satisfying for more smokers.
- Invest in research to continue to explore the effects of e-cigarettes on smoking cessation and to determine which factors promote a successful transition.

Dr Lynne Dawkins, Associate Professor at London South Bank University and co-author of the report said:

For smokers trying to quit, e-cigarettes are more attractive than traditional smoking cessation methods, such as nicotine replacement therapy, and at least as effective.

There is also mounting evidence that they are much safer than tobacco smoking. As a consumer product, although most Stop Smoking Services are not currently able to supply these, we recommend that they endorse them and support their use by smokers trying to quit.

You can read our interview with Dr Lynne Dawkins in [The Psychologist](#) on why it's so hard to quit smoking and listen to our audio interview.

These briefings are aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of the ways in which psychology can contribute towards achieving behaviour change and inform interventions.

Action on Smoking and Health

UK's largest ever analysis of data shows no evidence that e-cigarettes are leading young people into smoking

29 August 2017

UK's largest ever analysis of data shows no evidence that e-cigarettes are leading young people into smoking

Concerns that use of e-cigarettes by young people in the UK could be leading to smoking are so far not borne out by the evidence, shows a new study published today.

The study, a collaboration between UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies, Public Health England, Action on Smoking and Health, and the DECIPHer Centre at the University of Cardiff is an analysis of five large-scale surveys conducted in the period 2015-17 involving over 60,000 11-16 year-olds. ^[1]

The findings show a consistent pattern: most e-cigarette experimentation among young people does not lead to regular use, and

levels of regular e-cigarette use in young people who have never smoked remain very low. ^[2]

Regular (at least weekly) use of e-cigarettes amongst all young people surveyed was 3% or less. This was highly concentrated in those who also smoked tobacco. Among young people who smoke regularly (at least weekly), use of electronic cigarettes ranged from 7% to 38%. ^[2] However, among young people who have never smoked, regular use of e-cigarettes was negligible – between 0.1% and 0.5% across the five surveys. ^[2]

Most studies of e-cigarettes and young people in the UK and elsewhere have looked at experimentation – involving ever or recent use, rather than regular use. Some of these studies have suggested that trying an e-cigarette leads to young people becoming smokers, which is not justified by the evidence.

Professor Linda Bauld, Professor of Health Policy, University of Stirling:

Recent studies have generated alarming headlines that e-cigarettes are leading to smoking. Our analysis of the latest surveys from all parts of the United Kingdom, involving thousands of teenagers shows clearly that for those teens who don't smoke, e-cig experimentation is simply not translating into regular use.

Our study also shows that smoking rates in young people are continuing to decline. Future studies on this subject need to continue to monitor both experimentation and regular use of e-cigarettes and take into account trends in tobacco use if we are to provide the public with accurate information.

Martin Dockrell, Tobacco Policy Manager, Public Health England:

The findings in this study suggest that in terms of protecting children we are broadly getting the balance right in the UK. We have a regulatory system that aims to protect children and young people while ensuring adult smokers have access to safer nicotine products that can help them stop smoking. This includes a minimum age of sale, tight restrictions on marketing, and comprehensive quality and safety requirements. We will continue to monitor the trends in e-cigarette use alongside those in smoking.

Deborah Arnott, Chief Executive, Action on Smoking and Health:

ASH will continue to monitor the potential impact of e-cigarettes on young people, however this study provides reassurance that to date fears that they are a gateway into smoking are just not born out by the facts on the ground. A small proportion of young people do experiment with e-cigs, but this does not appear to be leading to regular vaping or smoking in any numbers, indeed smoking rates in young people are continuing to decline.

Graham Moore, Deputy Director, DECIPHer:

Few people would argue that e-cigarette use in young people should be encouraged. However, these surveys consistently show that the rapid growth in experimentation with e-cigarettes among young people throughout the UK has so far not resulted in widespread regular use among non-smokers. Taken alongside our other recent analyses which suggest that among young people who use both e-cigarettes and tobacco, tobacco nearly always comes first, concerns that e-cigarettes are leading large numbers

of young people into addiction and tobacco use increasingly seem to be implausible.

Notes

Young people are defined as aged from 11-16 in the surveys analysed.

Contributors to the research paper include: Public Health England, Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), members of the UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies (The Institute for Social Marketing at the University of Stirling, The Addictions Department at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, King's College London) and The Centre for the Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement at Cardiff University.

Funding

- The YTPS was supported by a grant from Cancer Research UK
- The ASH surveys were supported by grants from Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation.
- The School Health Research Network in Wales is a partnership between the DECIPHer at Cardiff University, Welsh Government, Public Health Wales and Cancer Research UK, funded by Health and Care Research Wales via the National Centre for Population Health and Well-being Research.

References

[1] The five surveys are:

- The Youth Tobacco Policy Survey
- Schools Health Research Network Wales survey
- ASH Smokefree GB Youth survey 2016
- ASH Smokefree GB Youth survey 2017
- Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey

[2] Bauld L et al *Young People's Use of E-Cigarettes across the United Kingdom: Findings from Five Surveys 2015-2017*, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 2017, 14, 29 August 2017 <http://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/14/9/973/pdf>

Action on Smoking and Health

Large national survey finds 2.9 million people now vape in Britain: For the first time over half don't smoke

8 May 2017

Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) today publishes the findings from its annual Smokefree GB survey into the use of electronic cigarettes and vapourisers in Great Britain.[1]

The study, conducted by YouGov on behalf of ASH, shows an estimated 2.9 million adults in Great Britain currently use electronic cigarettes.

For the first time ever, the survey finds more ex-smokers (1.5 million) who use e-cigarettes than current smokers and the main reason people offered for their use of e-cigarettes was to stop smoking. While this is positive, there are still many people who “dual-use” combustible and electronic cigarettes which still exposes them to the toxic, cancer causing substances in tobacco smoke.[2]

Professor Ann McNeill, Professor of Tobacco Addiction at King’s College London, said:

This year’s ASH survey finds that around 1.5 million vapers are ex-smokers, for the first time a larger number than those who continue to smoke. This is encouraging news as we know that vapers who continue to smoke continue to be exposed to cancer-causing substances. The message for the 1.3 million vapers who still smoke is that they need to go further and switch completely.

There has been a fourfold increase in the number of vapers since 2012 when the figure was 700,000. However, growth has slowed a great deal in the last couple of years and fewer smokers year on year understand the reduced risk of vaping compared to smoking tobacco.[2]

Deborah Arnott, Chief Executive of ASH, said:

It’s excellent news that the number of vapers who have quit smoking is continuing to grow”

The rapid growth in e-cigarette use has come to an end while over a third of smokers have still never tried e-cigarettes, saying the main reasons are concerns about the safety and addictiveness of e-cigarettes. It’s very important smokers realise that vaping is much, much less harmful than smoking.

The research shows that many people are over-estimating the risk posed by e-cigarettes. Only 13% of respondents recognise that e-cigarettes are a lot less harmful than smoking, with 26% thinking they are more or equally harmful. This is a communications challenge that needs to be met in order to reduce the harm caused by tobacco to smokers and those around them. It may also be a factor in the slowed growth of e-cigarette uptake.

These new data also demonstrate that the EU Tobacco Products Directive (TPD) rules on nicotine concentration and tank size will only effect a small proportion of e-cig users. The legislation coming into effect from 20 May this year includes new regulations that apply to electronic cigarettes as well as tobacco. The maximum strength of nicotine allowed in e-liquid will be 20 mg/ml, the maximum tank size will be 2 ml and the maximum e-liquid bottle size will be 10 ml. The ASH survey found that only 6% of vapers use nicotine above the TPD maximum of 20 mg/ml and only 1% of vapers use more than 10 ml of liquid a day.

The most common reasons given by e-cigarette users for switching from tobacco were to help them stop smoking entirely and to save money.

You can view the factsheet here. [Use of e-cigarettes among adults in Great Britain 2017](#)

Notes and Links:

Action on Smoking and Health is a health charity working to eliminate the harm caused by tobacco use. For more information see:

www.ash.org.uk/about-ash

ASH receives funding for its programme of work from Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation.

[1] Opinion research from YouGov. Total sample size was 12696 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between 16th February 2017 and 19th March 2017. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+). Link to factsheet

[2] Shahab L. Goniewicz M. Blount B. Brown J. McNeill A. Alwis K U. Feng J. Wang L. West R.

Nicotine, Carcinogen, and Toxin Exposure in Long-Term E-Cigarette and Nicotine Replacement Therapy Users: A Cross-sectional Study. *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

[3] Royal College of Physicians. Nicotine without smoke: Tobacco harm reduction. London: RCP, 2016.

BMJ Tobacco Control

Teen vaping “one way bridge” to future smoking

8 February 2017

Teen vaping “one way bridge” to future smoking among non-smokers, say researchers

Teen vaping acts as a “one way bridge” to future smoking among those who have never smoked before, and may not stop those who have smoked before from returning to it, concludes a small US study, published online in the journal *Tobacco Control*.

The researchers base their findings on a follow up sample of 347 out of 822 originally targeted 12th graders (17-18 year olds), who had been randomly selected from a representative (Monitoring the Future) survey of more than 13,000 12th graders from 122 schools, in 2014.

The 2014 survey and its follow up one year later in 2015 asked the teens about substance use, including vaping and conventional cigarette smoking.

Analysis of the responses showed that e-cigarettes were one of the most popular substances that the teens said they used, and the prevalence of recent vaping (within the past 30 days) was around 50% higher than it was for conventional smoking.

Most of the respondents thought that cigarette smoking was harmful, with 80% in both the 2014 and follow up surveys feeling that one or more packs daily posed a ‘great risk.’

Teens who had never smoked a cigarette before reaching 12th grade, but who had used an e-cigarette at least once within the past 30 days, were more than four times as likely to say that they had smoked a cigarette by the follow up survey (31%) as those who hadn't vaped (7%).

But all the new smokers who were also recent vapers said they had smoked only 'once or twice' during the preceding 12 months.

This difference between vapers and non-vapers held true even after accounting for potentially influential factors, such as sex, ethnicity, and their parents' educational attainment.

For those who had ever smoked by the time of the 2014 survey, the prevalence of smoking during the preceding 12 months was more than twice as high among teens who were also vapers in 2014 (80%) than it was among those who weren't (37%).

Vaping also significantly predicted cigarette smoking in the preceding 12 months at the follow up survey among teens who had smoked at some point previously, but not recently (63% vs 27%), even among those who felt that smoking was very harmful.

And among teens who said they had never smoked by the time of the 2014 survey, recent vapers were four times as likely to move away from the belief that cigarette smoking poses a great risk as those who hadn't vaped, possibly because they become desensitised to the harms of smoking, suggest the researchers.

This is an observational study so no firm conclusions can be drawn about cause and effect, added to which the researchers point to several caveats.

The analysis did not take account of the substances in the e-cigarettes the teens vaped, nor the different frequencies of vaping at the time of the 2014 survey. The number of responses to the follow up survey was relatively small, which may have introduced some element of bias, while other factors associated with susceptibility to smoking take-up among teens, such as rebelliousness and the influence of friends, were not included.

But the researchers say the results contribute to the growing body of evidence for vaping as a "one way bridge" to cigarette smoking teens. "These results bolster findings for vaping as a one way bridge to cigarette smoking among adolescents," they write.

"The results support a desensitisation process, whereby youth who vape lower their perceived risk of cigarette smoking," they add.

Notes for editors

Research: [E-cigarette use as a predictor of cigarette smoking: results from a 1-year follow up of a national sample of 12th grade students](#)

Tobacco Control is one of 60 specialist journals published by BMJ. tobaccocontrol.bmj.com

Cancer Research UK

E-cigarettes safer than smoking says long-term study

6 February 2017

E-cigarettes are less toxic and safer to use compared to conventional cigarettes, according to [research \(link is external\)](#)* published in *Annals of Internal Medicine* today (Monday).

This study adds to growing evidence that e-cigarettes are a much safer alternative to tobacco, and suggests the long term effects of these products will be minimal. - Alison Cox, Cancer Research UK

Cancer Research UK-funded scientists found that people who swapped smoking regular cigarettes for e-cigarettes or nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) for at least six months, had much lower levels of toxic and cancer causing substances in their body than people who continued to use conventional cigarettes.

For the first time, researchers analysed the saliva and urine of long-term e-cigarette and NRT users, as well as smokers, and compared body-level exposure to key chemicals.**

Ex-smokers who switched to e-cigarettes or NRT had significantly lower levels of toxic chemicals and carcinogens*** in their body compared to people who continued to smoke tobacco cigarettes. But, those who used e-cigarettes or NRT while continuing to smoke, did not show the same marked differences, highlighting that a complete switch is needed to reduce exposure to toxins.

Dr Lion Shahab, senior lecturer in the department of epidemiology and public health at UCL, and lead author of the publication, said:

Our study adds to existing evidence showing that e-cigarettes and NRT are far safer than smoking, and suggests that there is a very low risk associated with their long-term use.

We've shown that the levels of toxic chemicals in the body from e-cigarettes are considerably lower than suggested in previous studies using simulated experiments. This means some doubts about the safety of e-cigarettes may be wrong.

Our results also suggest that while e-cigarettes are not only safer, the amount of nicotine they provide is not noticeably different to conventional cigarettes. This can help people to stop smoking altogether by dealing with their cravings in a safer way.

Alison Cox, Cancer Research UK's director of cancer prevention, said:

Around a third of tobacco-caused deaths are due to cancer, so we want to see many more of the UK's 10 million smokers break their addiction.

This study adds to growing evidence that e-cigarettes are a much safer alternative to tobacco, and suggests the long term effects of these products will be minimal.

Understanding and communicating the benefits of nicotine replacements, such as e-cigarettes, is an important step towards reducing the number of tobacco-related deaths here in the UK.

For media enquiries please contact the Cancer Research UK press office on +44 203 469 8300 or, out-of-hours, the duty press officer on +44 7050 264 059.

References

*Lion Shahab, L., Goniewicz, M, L., PhD; Blount, B, C., Brown, J., McNeill, A., Alwis, K, U., Feng, J., Wang, L., & West, R. Nicotine, carcinogen, and toxin exposure in long-term e-cigarette and nicotine replacement therapy users: a cross-sectional study. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. doi:10.7326/M16-1107

Notes to Editor

**Previous research into the toxicity of e-cigarettes has focused on assessing concentrations of potentially harmful chemicals within the products themselves, or the vapor they produce.

***Levels of TSNA (tobacco-specific nitrosamines) and VOCs (volatile organic compounds) metabolites were examined – these compounds have well-established smoking-related toxicological and carcinogenic risks.

Public Health England

E-cigarettes: an emerging public health consensus

15 September 2015

Joint statement on e-cigarettes by Public Health England and other UK public health organisations.

We all agree that e-cigarettes are significantly less harmful than smoking. One in 2 lifelong smokers dies from their addiction. All of the evidence suggests that the health risks posed by e-cigarettes are relatively small by comparison but we must continue to study the long term effects.

And yet, millions of smokers have the impression that e-cigarettes are at least as harmful as tobacco and we have a responsibility to provide clear information on the facts as we know them to be. It is our duty to provide reassurance for the 1.1 million e-cigarette users who have completely stopped smoking to prevent their relapse.

To be clear, the public health opportunity is in helping smokers to quit, so we may encourage smokers to try vaping but we certainly encourage vapers to stop smoking tobacco completely.

We know that e-cigarettes are the most popular quitting tool in the country with [more than 10 times as many people](#) using them than using local stop smoking services. But, we also know that using local stop smoking services is by far the most effective way to quit.

What we need to do is combine the most popular method with the most effective and that is why we are encouraging those who want to use e-cigarettes to quit smoking to seek the help of their local stop smoking service.

The current national evidence is that in the UK regular e-cigarette use is almost exclusively confined to those young people who smoke, and youth smoking prevalence is continuing to fall. This is an area that we will continue to research and keep under closest surveillance. In October this year, regulations to protect children will make it an offence to sell e-cigarettes to anyone under 18 or to buy e-cigarettes for them and within a year the [EU Tobacco Products Directive](#) proposes a ban on all print and broadcast advertising of e-cigarettes as part of a full range of regulations.

The concerns on [Public Health England's evidence review](#), raised by McKee and Capewell in the BMJ today, are not new and have [been covered](#) and [fully responded](#) to before.

We should not forget what is important here. We know that smoking is the number one killer in England and we have a public health responsibility to provide smokers with the information and the tools to help them quit smoking completely and forever.

PHE has always been very clear on its commitment to providing up to date information on the emerging evidence on e-cigarettes, as shown in the [recent review](#) which is the [third in this area](#) in the last 2 years. This commitment drove PHE and Cancer Research UK to set up the [UK E-cigarette Research Forum](#). PHE is honouring its longstanding promise to monitor and share the evidence, providing clear messages to the public.

There is no circumstance in which it is better for a smoker to continue smoking – a habit that kills 1 in every 2 and harms many others, costing the NHS and society billions every year. We will continue to share what we know and address what we don't yet know, to ensure clear, consistent messages for the public and health professionals.

3. Parliamentary material

Debate

Commons Debate: Tobacco Control Plan

HC Deb 19 October 2017 | Vol 629 cc1028-

PQs

[Electronic Cigarettes: Heart Diseases](#)

Asked by: Shannon, Jim

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what discussions his Department has had with clinical bodies on the potential connection between e-cigarette use and heart disease.

Answering member: Steve Brine | Department: Department of Health

The Government engages with various clinical bodies to discuss a range of tobacco control issues, including tobacco harm reduction. The Department has made a commitment to monitor the impact of regulation and policy on e-cigarettes and novel tobacco products in England, including evidence on safety, uptake, health impact and effectiveness of these products as smoking cessation aids, to inform our actions on regulating their use. Public Health England will update their evidence report to the Department on e-cigarettes and other novel nicotine delivery systems annually until the end of the Parliament in 2022.

HC Deb 25 October 2017 | PQ 108221

[Electronic Cigarettes](#)

Asked by: Main, Mrs Anne

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether e-cigarettes can be promoted in public health campaigns under the Tobacco Products Directive.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he is taking to ensure that public health campaigns are able to promote the use of e-cigarettes to aid smoking cessation.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will make it his policy to exclude e-cigarettes from the Tobacco Products Directive ban on advertising when the UK leaves the EU.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what assessment he has made of the effect of the advertising ban on the use of e-cigarettes.

Answering member: Steve Brine | Department: Department of Health

As announced in the England Tobacco Control Plan published 18 July 2017, the Department will monitor the impact of regulation and policy on e-cigarettes and novel tobacco products in England, including evidence on safety, uptake, health impact and effectiveness of these products as smoking cessation aids, to inform our actions on regulating their use.

Public Health England will continue to provide the evidence annually on e-cigarettes and other novel nicotine delivery systems until the end of Parliament in 2022 and will include within quit smoking campaign messages about the relative safety of e-cigarettes compared to smoking.

The Department has published guidance on Article 20(5) of the EU Tobacco Products Directive covering restrictions on advertising electronic cigarettes. That guidance states that “a public health campaign about relative risks of e-cigarettes versus tobacco products by Public Health England or local stop smoking services are not advertisements made in the course of a business and therefore not covered by these restrictions”. The guidance is published here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proposals-for-uk-law-on-the-advertising-of-e-cigarettes/publishing-20-may-not-yet-complete>

The Government will review where the United Kingdom’s exit from the European Union offers opportunities to re-appraise current regulation to ensure this continues to protect the nation’s health.

The Government also has a statutory duty to conduct an implementation review of the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 by the end of May 2021 to assess its impact.

HC Deb 19 October 2017 | PQ 107264; PQ 107154; PQ 107152; P! 107087

[Prisons: *Electronic Cigarettes and Tobacco*](#)

Asked by: Burgon, Richard

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many (a) e-cigarettes and (b) tobacco products were sold in prison shops in each of the last 12 months.

Answering member: Mr Sam Gyimah | Department: Ministry of Justice

Numbers of units of e-cigarettes, vaping products and tobacco items sold in prisons in England and Wales in each month for the last year are as set out in the attached annex.

Prisons are rolling out the smoke free policy, subject to a series of assessments which will test the operational stability, readiness and health readiness of the prisons to implement the policy in a safe, decent and secure way. HMPPS’ health partners in England and Wales are fully

involved in supporting prisoners with appropriate smoking cessation services in place.

The open estate across England and Wales has been smoke free indoors since October 2015.

[Number of Products Sold in Prisons](#) (Word Document, 12.97 KB)

HC Deb 12 September 2017 | PQ 9456

[Tobacco](#)

Asked by: Hodgson, Mrs Sharon

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will commission Public Health England to review heat-not-burn tobacco products in the same way that it has reviewed vaping products.

Answering member: Steve Brine | Department: Department of Health

The Government has asked the Committee on Toxicology to look at the data submitted by companies and to give an opinion based on this research on the absolute and relative risk of the products concerned, and to indicate the strength of the evidence on which their opinion is based. Public Health England has been commissioned to review this opinion and the available evidence on novel tobacco products, and to provide advice to the Government on this issue.

HC Deb 04 July 2017 | PQ 1730

[Electronic Cigarettes](#)

Asked by: Barron, Kevin

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the oral contribution of Lord Prior of Brampton of 4 July 2016, House of Lords, Official Report, column 1828, on Public Health England being commissioned to update its evidence report on e-cigarettes annually until the end of the current Parliament, when Public Health England plans to publish its next evidence report.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps are being taken by (a) his Department, (b) the Medical and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency and (c) Public Health England to encourage research into the use of e-cigarettes.

Answering member: Nicola Blackwood | Department: Department of Health

The Department is working closely with Public Health England (PHE) and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) to encourage research into the use of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and monitor the emerging evidence.

PHE's next updated evidence report on e-cigarettes is expected to be published before the end of the 2017. In addition to the publication of

an evidence review, PHE have partnered with Cancer Research UK and the UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies to develop a forum that brings together policy makers, researchers, practitioners and the non-governmental organisation representatives to discuss the emerging evidence, identify research priorities and generate ideas for new research projects, thereby enhancing collaboration between forum participants.

The MHRA will continue to undertake market surveillance of e-cigarettes as part of their role as the Competent Authority, feeding back any intelligence to the Department and PHE.

HC Deb 21 March 2017 | PQ 67667; PQ 67483

[Electronic Cigarettes](#)

Asked by: Lord Hunt of Kings Heath

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the remarks by Lord Prior of Brampton on 14 September 2016 (HL Deb, col 1537) stating that the Government would continue to monitor and develop the evidence base for the regulation of e-cigarettes, what steps (1) Public Health England, and (2) the Medical and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, are taking to encourage research on e-cigarettes.

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the remarks by Lord Prior of Brampton on 4 July 2016 (HL Deb, col 1828) giving a commitment "to commissioning Public Health England to update its evidence report on e-cigarettes annually until the end of this Parliament", when the updated evidence report will be published.

Answering member: Lord O'Shaughnessy | Department: Department of Health

Public Health England's (PHE) next updated evidence report on e-cigarettes is expected to be published before the end of the 2017.

In addition to the publication of an evidence review, PHE have partnered with Cancer Research UK and the UK Centre for Tobacco and Alcohol Studies to develop a forum that brings together policy makers, researchers, practitioners and the non-governmental organisation representatives to discuss the emerging evidence, identify research priorities and generate ideas for new research projects, thereby enhancing collaboration between forum participants.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Authority will continue to undertake market surveillance of e-cigarettes as part of their role as the Competent Authority, feeding back any intelligence to the Department and PHE.

HL Deb 13 March 2017 | PQ HL5786: HL5785

[Tobacco Control Plan](#)

Asked by: Lord Lawson of Blaby

My Lords, given that the Royal College of Physicians has agreed that electronic cigarettes are the most effective way of getting smokers away from the habit of smoking tobacco, will the Minister ensure that when the much-desired great repeal Bill comes along, dealing with the adverse effect of the tobacco products directive, which prevents the transition to e-cigarettes, will be a high priority?

Answered by: Lord O'Shaughnessy

My noble friend is right to raise the issue of e-cigarettes. Something like half the 2.8 million current users of e-cigarettes are no longer smoking tobacco, so it has proved to be an extremely effective way of helping people to stop smoking. The UK has one of the most welcoming approaches to e-cigarettes in the world. We have a proactive approach of encouraging smokers to switch to vaping, and ensuring that that continues will be a part of the plan.

HL Deb 23 February 2017 | Vol 779 c405

[Electronic Cigarettes](#)

Asked by: Lord Blencathra

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the finding in the UCL report *Nicotine, Carcinogen, and Toxin Exposure in Long-Term E-Cigarette and Nicotine Replacement Therapy Users: A Cross-sectional Study* that vaping is much safer than smoking cigarettes and can help people switch from cigarette smoking.

To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the UCL report *Nicotine, Carcinogen, and Toxin Exposure in Long-Term E-Cigarette and Nicotine Replacement Therapy Users: A Cross-sectional Study* which found that people who switch to vaping have 97.5 per cent lower levels of NNA in their system, whether they will encourage people to switch from smoking cigarettes to vaping.

Answering member: Lord O'Shaughnessy | Department: Department of Health

The Government has been and continues to be clear that vaping is substantially less harmful than continuing to smoke, and that the best thing a smoker can do for their health is to stop smoking completely. This study supports the Government's policy approach, demonstrating that to reduce exposure to harmful chemicals significantly, those smokers who chose to vape should substitute smoking with vaping entirely.

HL Deb 16 February 2017 | PQ HL5327; PQ HL5326

[Electronic Cigarettes: Young People](#)

Asked by: Shannon, Jim

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to ensure young people do not become addicted to e-cigarettes.

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he is taking to ensure that any research findings on the potentially detrimental effects of using electronic cigarettes is taken into account in NHS policy on use of those cigarettes.

Answering member: Nicola Blackwood | Department: Department of Health

The Government has taken a precautionary approach and actively put in place measures to prevent initiation of e-cigarette use by children. These include legislation to restrict age of sale, proxy purchase and the advertising of e-cigarettes. In addition, the use of e-cigarettes is regularly monitored. To date, data shows no significant level of regular use in children.

Public Health England has published the guidance 'Use of e-cigarettes in public places and workplaces' which can be used locally by the National Health Service to set their policy on the use of e-cigarettes. This advice takes into account the current evidence on these products. The evidence base is kept under regular review as new data becomes available.

HC Deb 20 January 2017 | PQ 60489; PQ 60476

4. Useful links and further reading

NICE current consultation *Smoking cessation interventions and services: Draft guidance consultation*

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/indevelopment/gid-phg94/consultation/html-content-2>

Hartmann-Boyce J, McRobbie H, Bullen C, Begh R, Stead LF, Hajek P. *Electronic cigarettes for smoking cessation*. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2016, Issue 9. Art. No.: CD010216. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD010216.pub3. September 2016

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD010216.pub3/abstract>

E-cigarettes: a developing public health consensus Joint statement on e-cigarettes by Public Health England and other UK public health organisations July 2016

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/534708/E-cigarettes_joint_consensus_statement_2016.pdf

Royal College of Physicians *Nicotine without smoke: Tobacco harm reduction* April 2016

<https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/projects/outputs/nicotine-without-smoke-tobacco-harm-reduction-0>

NHS Smokefree: *ecigarettes*

<https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree/help-and-advice/e-cigarettes>

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