

**Y Pwyllgor Materion Cyfansoddiadol a Deddfwriaethol
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee**

Mr William Cash MP
Chair European Scrutiny Committee
7 Millbank
House of Commons
London
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Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



20 March 2013

Dear Mr Cash

Proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approximation of the laws, regulation and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the manufacture, presentation and the sale of tobacco and related products (COM(2012)0788)

Thank you for your letter of 4 March.

We were prompted to write to you on this issue following correspondence we had received as individual Assembly Members. I attach an example of the type of correspondence received for your information and hope that it will assist you and the Committee in your consideration of the proposed directive.

Yours sincerely

**David Melding AM
Chair**

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EU draft Tobacco Products Directive

I am writing to you to express my deep concerns over the recent EU Proposals (Dec 19 2012) for new laws controlling tobacco and nicotine products like e-cigarettes.

There are products now included in the proposal to the EU tobacco directive that were not in before. Apparently the EU wants to determine that nicotine-containing products with a maximum concentration of 4 milligrams per millilitre will be freely available on the market. All higher concentrations have to be approved as medicinal product.

This would effectively render "Vaping" (more commonly known as using e-cigarettes) as useless to the vast majority of vapers as the level of nicotine suggested by the EU would be non effective IN KEEPING MOST VAPERS OFF CIGARETTES.

There would be no option for me and most others to return to smoking cigarettes. I do NOT want to put my health at risk now that I have found an alternative way of using my nicotine.

I am...[an]..ex smoker of well over 20 years starting when I was 16 years old and using up to 2 packets a day all of my adult life....

..... I have tried many times to stop smoking. I attended smoking cessation classes at my GP's, tried patches and gum many times also, all of those efforts are documented at my GP Surgery and none of them worked over the period I was trying to stop. Every time I tried I was given a prescription costing the NHS huge amounts of money!

In March of 2012 I discovered vaping and have not had cigarettes since, yes it works! I have saved a huge amount of money but more importantly my health has improved massively. I am able to breathe better, I feel better....

There are some 7 million vapers in Europe and almost a million in the UK. How is it that cigarettes can be allowed in this country yet "e-cigarettes" which are a safer alternative can be effectively banned by the said proposal? I am seriously worried that my life is going to be put at risk if because of these actions I have to return to smoking.

I would ask what are your views on this proposal and could you discuss this with everyone you know to stop this from happening?