

Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity
Ministear airson Sgilean Uaine, Eaconamaidh Chuirteach is Bith-iomadachd
Lorna Slater MSP/BPA



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Gerry Cornes
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Our Reference: 202300356631
Your Reference: -

13 June 2023

Dear Gerry Cornes

Thank you for your letter of 3 May 2023 to Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care regarding East Dunbartonshire Council's recent motion to ban disposable vapes. As Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity, this issue falls within my portfolio. I share your concern about the impacts of single-use vapes as well as the prevalence of young people vaping in Scottish society and the need to promptly address the issue.

As you are aware, I asked Zero Waste Scotland to examine the environmental impact of single use vapes and consider options to tackle the issue. Zero Waste Scotland submitted the summary report at the end of May.

The findings are currently being considered and the report is undergoing final revisions prior to publication, which is expected to take place in June. Any future approach will be determined by the findings of the review.

I am considering the evidence, expert advice and policy options, which I have said could include a potential ban on single-use vapes. However, there are other options, for example increasing access to responsible disposal options, improved product design or public communications campaigns.

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I look forward to the report's findings being published and the opportunity to discuss potential next steps to address the issue.

Kind regards



LORNA SLATER

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