

Motion

Ban on sale of single-use vapes and free samples

To consider the following motion proposed by Councillor Liz Jarvis, and seconded by Councillor Richard Gomer:

Council notes that:

- a) at least 1.3 million disposable vapes end up in landfill in the UK every week, posing a significant risk to the environment;
- b) disposable vapes create a fire hazard for waste and litter collection services, and hazardous litter in our countryside, with some entering our waterways, placing our precious wildlife at risk;
- c) according to the RSPCA single-use vapes pose significant and potentially devastating risks to animals both domesticated and wild;
- d) disposable vapes are designed as one unit with a lithium ion battery, which cannot be separated from its plastic, making them difficult to recycle; and that
- e) in May 2023, data from Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) showed there had been a 50 per cent rise in the proportion of children trying vaping in Great Britain in the last year, with disposable vapes the vape of choice for children currently vaping.

Council agrees that:

- f) Council is not anti-vaping, which has been shown to be less harmful than smoking and has a place as a tool to use in smoking cessation; but that
- g) the Government should be doing all it can to discourage children from vaping, including age warnings on packets, an end to toy-like advertising targeted at children, and a ban on the sale of single-use vapes and free samples.

Council resolves to:

- h) write to the Secretary of State for Health supporting an immediate ban on the sale of single-use vapes and free samples, and to implement mandatory age-of-sale signage on vaping products with sanctions for breaching these rules as per under tobacco display regulations; and to
- i) investigate the potential to introduce proper collection points for disposable vapes.