

Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee
Wednesday 5 March 2025
4th Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

PE2033: Introduce a full ban on disposable vapes

Introduction

Petitioner Jordon Anderson

Petition summary Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to legislate for a full or partial ban on disposable vapes in Scotland and recognise the dangers that these devices pose to both the environment and the health of young people.

Webpage <https://petitions.parliament.scot/petitions/PE2033>

1. [The Committee last considered this petition at its meeting on 17 April 2024.](#) At that meeting, the Committee agreed to keep the petition open until The Environmental Protection (Single-use Vapes) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 come into force, or a date for the regulations to be introduced is given.
2. The petition summary is included in **Annexe A** and the Official Report of the Committee's last consideration of this petition is at **Annexe B**.
3. The Committee has received a new written submission from Maggie Chapman MSP, which is set out in **Annexe C**.
4. [Written submissions received prior to the Committee's last consideration can be found on the petition's webpage.](#)
5. [Further background information about this petition can be found in the SPICe briefing](#) for this petition.
6. [The Scottish Government gave its initial position on this petition on 4 July 2023.](#)
7. Every petition collects signatures while it remains under consideration. At the time of writing, 281 signatures have been received on this petition.
8. Members may wish to note that [the Scottish Parliament approved the Environmental Protection \(Single-use Vapes\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2024 \[draft\] on 25 September 2024.](#) The regulations propose to ban the sale and supply of single-use vapes in the course of business in Scotland. The ban was originally expected to come into effect from 1 April 2025, however, in [response to a parliamentary question from Maurice Golden, the Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy confirmed the Scottish Government's intention amend the commencement date from 1 April 2025 to 1 June 2025.](#) This is intended to ensure alignment with regulations coming into effect across the four nations of the UK.

Action

9. The Committee is invited to consider what action it wishes to take.

Clerks to the Committee
February 2025

Annexe A: Summary of petition

PE2033: Introduce a full ban on disposable vapes

Petitioner

Jordon Anderson

Date Lodged

20 June 2023

Petition summary

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to legislate for a full or partial ban on disposable vapes in Scotland and recognise the dangers that these devices pose to both the environment and the health of young people.

Previous action

I have written to all of my MSPs, with Douglas Lumsden and Maggie Chapman responding in support of the concerns I raised around disposable vapes.

I have also written to my ward councillors; they didn't want to take action at a local level and instead urged me to write to my MSP.

Background information

Research suggests [1.3 million disposable vapes are thrown away every week in the UK](#). That is 62.4 million vapes every year going to UK landfill, or being washed up in our oceans, rivers and canals. These vapes and their lithium batteries are extremely dangerous to our wildlife and environment. They are a fire hazard and can explode.

There is not enough health research being done to know how dangerous these devices really are. However according to [Edge Vaping](#), they can cause bleeding from the throat or nose, inflammation of the airways, shortness of breath and possibly Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). Manufacturers suggest the nicotine content of vapes is similar to 20 cigarettes; with some young people getting through 3-4 vapes a week, that could be like smoking 60 cigarettes a week.

I believe that vapes have no place in supermarkets or any retailer. They are intended only to be a mechanism to stop smoking, not an alternative to cigarettes. We need a ban, and we need it quickly!

Annexe B: Extract from Official Report of last consideration of PE2033 on 17 April 2024

The Convener: Our next petition is PE2033, on introducing a full ban on disposable vapes. My apologies, but I have a bit of an introduction to make for this one.

The petition was lodged by Jordon Anderson and calls on the Parliament to urge the Government to legislate for a full or partial ban on disposable vapes in Scotland and to recognise the dangers that the devices pose to both the environment and the health of young people.

I am conscious that there is quite a public debate around the whole issue of vapes, so it is important that I set out the following information.

We previously considered the petition at our meeting on 4 October last year, and we agreed to write to the Scottish Government and Action on Smoking and Health (Scotland)—known as ASH Scotland—Forest, representatives of the UK vaping industry and other vape manufacturers.

We have received a response from the Scottish Government, which notes that its commitment to consult on a proposed ban on single-use vapes has been taken forward through the four-nations joint consultation, which ran from 12 September to 6 December 2023.

We have also received a submission from ASH Scotland, which notes its support for a ban on disposable e-cigarettes and provides survey data on the increase in the number of young people using disposable e-cigarettes.

Responses have also been received from the Independent British Vape Trade Association and the UK Vaping Industry Association, both of which caution against the unintended consequences of banning an entire vaping product category and argue that a ban on single-use vapes would have a detrimental impact on adults trying to quit smoking.

I also draw members' attention to the publication of draft regulations to ban the sale and supply of disposable vapes, which were published in February and are expected to come into force next April, and to the ministerial statement provided to Parliament just a few weeks ago, on 26 March, updating us on the Scottish Government's work to tackle youth vaping.

We have also received a submission from the petitioner, expressing scepticism about Scotland's aim to be tobacco-free in the next 10 years and suggesting that marketing campaigns are not enough to deter young people from vaping. Although the petitioner welcomes the introduction of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill to the UK Parliament, he is concerned that regulation of online sales of vaping products has not been included in the bill.

It may also be pertinent to note the actions to control tobacco consumption that are currently being progressed by the UK Government at the Westminster Parliament.

In light of those various initiatives and the responses that we have received, do members have any suggestions about how we might now proceed?

Maurice Golden: I think that we should close the petition, but not yet. I think we should wait to see whether the regulations proposed by the Scottish Government, which would achieve the aims of the petition, come into force. I believe that the regulations are at the draft stage at the moment and will be introduced. For the comfort of all, I think that we should wait until that occurs before closing the petition.

The Convener: To summarise, we are taking a decision in principle to close the petition, but we are deferring the taking of a formal decision until the regulations are introduced, or at least until we are told that regulations will be introduced, at which point we will either close the petition or inquire why the regulations have not been introduced.

Does that meet with members' approval?

Members *indicated agreement.*

Annexe C: Written submission

Maggie Chapman MSP written submission, 26 February 2025

PE2033/J: Introduce a full ban on disposable vapes

I am sorry not to be able to attend the Committee when it discusses this petition, but I am grateful for its consideration of this statement.

I'm very grateful to my constituent Jordon Anderson for creating this petition. I also want to acknowledge and put on record my thanks for the substantial work which has been carried out on the issues raised. I note especially the work by Gillian Mackay MSP and by the award-winning activist Laura Young, another of my constituents, in Dundee.

It is clear that this is a matter of profound importance, not only as an environmental hazard but also as a source of serious harm to children and young people, especially those experiencing other forms of exclusion and deprivation.

This is also a multifaceted and serious issue, and I am aware that relevant regulations for a pan-UK approach are now not due to come into force until June. For this reason, I hope that the Committee will keep the petition open until those regulations are in force, and the petitioner confirms that the intention of his petition has been fulfilled.