

# ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON SMOKING AND HEALTH

Chair: Paul Burstow MP  
Secretary: Bob Blackman MP  
Treasurer: Ian Mearns MP

Vice-Chairs:  
Rt Hon Kevin Barron MP  
Baroness Finlay  
Baroness O'Cathain  
Lord Rennard  
John Robertson MP

Jane Ellison MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health  
Department of Health  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

15<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Dear Jane

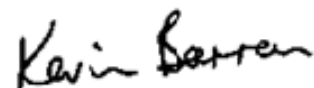
## Standardised packaging of tobacco products

Congratulations on your appointment as Public Health Minister. We were extremely pleased to hear your statement in the House during the recent debate on standardised packaging that the policy remains under active consideration, but disappointed given the strength of cross party support in both Houses of Parliament that such consideration has not yet led to a decision to proceed. As you know there is an amendment to the Children and Families Bill due to be debated shortly in the other place, which will subsequently come back to the Commons.

Standardised packaging is a policy strongly supported by the All Party Group on Smoking and Health with backing from many MPs from all parties. As officers of the APPG we would appreciate the opportunity of meeting you to discuss this further before the amendment completes its passage through the Lords. We would like to also involve the Chairs of the All Party Group on Cancer, John Baron MP and the All Party Group on Heart Disease, Chris Ruane MP, as both these groups are also strongly committed to standardised packaging.

We will get in touch with your office to see if it is possible to find a mutually convenient date to meet.

Yours sincerely



Rt Hon Paul Burstow MP, Bob Blackman MP and Rt Hon Kevin Barron MP  
Chair and Officers of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Smoking and Health