

APPG Smoking and Health event minutes:

“Litter and Lies: Ending the filter fraud, protecting our planet”

Date: Wednesday 15th October

Time: 1pm-2pm

Room: Room O (PCH)

Host: Jim Dickson MP (Vice Chair- APPG)

Parliamentarians present

- Lord Bryn Davies
- Lord George Young
- Jim Dickson MP
- Mary Foy MP
- Bob Blackman MP
- Danny Beales MP
- Dr Caroline Johnson MP
- Rachael Maskell MP
- Baroness Joan Walmsley

Other attendees:

- Hazel Cheeseman (ASH)
- Helen Duffy (ASH)
- Noah Traill (ASH)
- Halle Breed (ASH)
- Caroline Cerny (ASH)
- Sasha (Marine Conservation Society)
- Alizee Froguel (Cancer Research UK)
- Joel Williams (Cancer Research UK)
- Representatives from DHSC

External speakers:

- Dr Katie East- Kings College London
- Dr Bas Boots- Anglia Ruskin University

Minutes:

Parliamentarians listened to two presentations from the external speakers on both the health and environmental harms of cigarette filters. These were discussed in a roundtable format.

On display were examples of tobacco industry marketing that use filters to promote smoking or imply that filters make smoking safer or less harmful. Attendees were also invited to 'guess' how many cigarettes were in a jar and then to guess how long it takes that number to be littered across the UK. The answer was 2000 cigarettes littered every minute (according to data from Keep Britain Tidy).

MPs made plans to write to the public health Minister on the topic and to liaise with peers in the House of Lords to ensure that the Government ensured that the Tobacco and Vapes Bill can deal with this issue.