



Understanding The Tobacco & Vapes Bill

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The Tobacco and Vapes Bill: A Game-Changer for Wales

The Tobacco and Vapes Bill 2024 is set to be one of the most impactful public health initiatives in a generation, aiming to protect young people, reduce tobacco use, and create healthier communities across the UK. Here's what the bill includes and what it means for Wales.

What's in the Bill?

This bill introduces a series of measures to limit the availability and appeal of tobacco and vaping products, especially for young people. Here's a summary of the main actions:

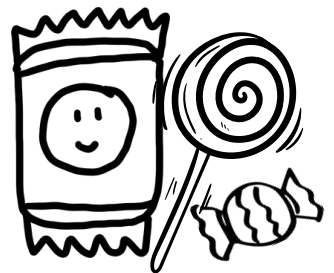
Creating a Smoke-Free Generation

The bill aims to create the first "smoke-free generation" by making it illegal for anyone born on or after 1 January 2009 to be sold tobacco products. This means that children who turn 15 this year or younger will never be legally able to buy tobacco. However, it won't change anything for those who already smoke legally.



Tighter Rules on Youth Vaping

The bill aims to reduce the appeal of vapes to young people by introducing strict controls on flavours, packaging, and advertising displays. These rules will apply to all vapes, including non-nicotine vapes, as well as other nicotine products like nicotine pouches.



Tackling Underage Sales

Trading Standards officers would be able to issue £200 fixed penalty fines on the spot for underage sales of tobacco and vape products in both England and Wales. This gives enforcement teams a quicker, more effective way to tackle illegal sales to minors.



Expanding Penalties

New fixed penalty fines will cover a wider range of offences, strengthening enforcement and ensuring rules are followed across the board.



Stronger Restrictions on Selling Vapes to Under-18s

Sales of vapes to anyone under 18 will be restricted for both nicotine and non-nicotine vapes. Other nicotine products, like pouches, will also be restricted in the same way, helping to prevent young people from accessing potentially addictive products.



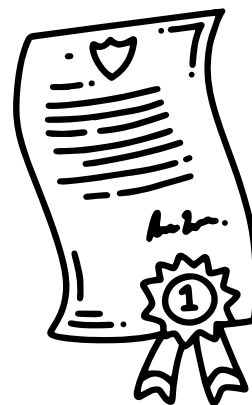
Ban on Vape Vending Machines and Oral Tobacco Products

The bill introduces a ban on vape vending machines and oral tobacco products, which will reduce young people's access to these products.



Vape-Free and Heated Tobacco-Free Public Spaces in Wales

Welsh Ministers will have the power to expand current smoke-free zones to also include vaping and heated tobacco products. This could mean more vape-free spaces in public areas across Wales.

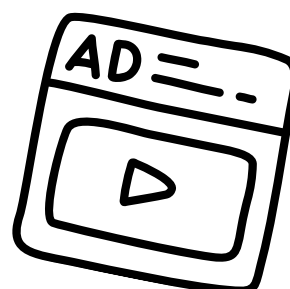


Retail Licensing Scheme in Wales

To sell tobacco, herbal smoking products, cigarette papers, vapes, or nicotine products, retailers in Wales will need a license. This retail licensing scheme aims to curb illegal sales, support responsible businesses, and make it easier to monitor where these products are sold.

Restrictions on Advertising and Sponsorship

The bill introduces restrictions on the advertising and sponsorship of a wider range of products, including vapes and other nicotine products. This means less marketing aimed at young people and a more responsible approach to product visibility.



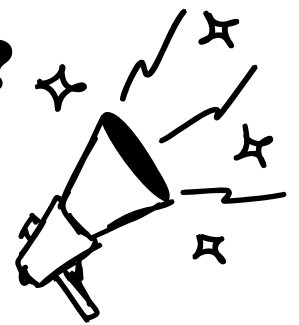
Why Is This Important For Wales?

The Tobacco and Vapes Bill is a landmark step in protecting young people and communities across Wales from the harmful effects of tobacco and unregulated nicotine products. By reducing access to these products, especially among young people, the bill supports the Welsh Government's goal of creating a smoke-free Wales by 2030.

How You Can Support the Bill?

Spread the Word

Share this information with friends, family, and your community to help everyone understand the importance of these changes.



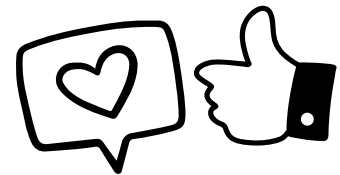
Report Illegal Sales

Help Trading Standards by reporting any illegal tobacco or vape sales you see in your community. Visit No Ifs, No Butts at noifs-nobutts.co.uk to report anonymously.



Stay Informed

Follow ASH Wales [@ashwalescymru](https://twitter.com/ashwalescymru) on social media or visit ash.wales for updates on the bill and tips on how to help create a smoke-free future for Wales.



Together, we can make Wales a safer, healthier place for everyone