

Minutes for Policy and Regulatory Meeting

Date

24 April 2023, 1pm

Attendees

Matt Gillow, Grahame Woods, Hugh Critchley, Anna Petrosyan, Victoria Hancock, Jeannie Cameron, Andrej Kuttruf. Khurram Jowiya.

Welcome

Matt welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies

John Dunne, Stephen Little, and Dan Marchant were noted as apologies.

Approval of the minutes

There were no amendments to the minutes.

Scottish Parliament Engagement – Grahame

Matt thanked the meeting for their support completing the Scottish Government consultation into the environmental impact of disposable vapes. Victoria asked that the final consultation response be circulated to committee members, and if the timelines for the review had been published.

While the timeframe for the review isn't known, JBP said that they would send around the final consultation response.

The UKVIA has now met with all of the Members of the Scottish Parliament that they had meetings confirmed with, and the MSPs that they met with are Paul Sweeney and Mercedes Villalba from Scottish Labour, Brian Whittle from Scottish Conservative, and Stephanie Callaghan from the Scottish National Party.

These meetings have broadly gone well, but it is clear that there is a large amount of misinformation in Scotland about the vaping industry and it would be an uphill battle should the review recommend a ban on disposable vapes. From now it is very much a 'wait and see' approach.

Youth Access Consultation – Matt

Matt outlined that the Government's Youth Vaping: Call for Evidence has been released and that the Youth Access Prevention Committee will lead the response to it.

COP 10 Roundtable – COP 10 Roundtable

Grahame noted that the COP 10 Roundtable was held last week and reiterated his thanks to those that helped in putting it together. Mark Pawsey, Andrew Lewis and Adam Afriyie attended as MPs, and the Vaping APPG is intending to put together a report of the recommendations from the meeting.

The main priority on our end is finding out who is attending COP on behalf of the UK, and we will be working with Parliamentary allies to achieve this.

Others thought that the meeting went very well and that Mark Pawsey MP was an effective Chair. She also noted that it was helpful having a small group around the table, and that Andrew Lewer MP was particularly interested in the event.

Key messages that emerged were:

- The need to maximise the UK's involvement in COP.
- The importance of having some NGOs taken to the COP as part of the UK's delegation.

General Business

Matt informed the committee that we are meeting with Neil O'Brien in the future.

Grahame said that he would follow up the European consultation with John.

Meeting closed at 1:18pm