

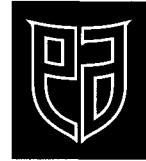
**Department of Neighbourhood Services**

Executive Director: William Stafford, MCIWM, MREHIS

Direct Dial: (01563) 576023 Fax: (01563) 576130

Email: [william.stafford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:william.stafford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

01-23



**East Ayrshire**  
COUNCIL

Paul L Todd  
(01563) 554021

21 February 2007

Our Ref: WS/PLT/SMcD

John Glen  
Scottish Executive Health Department  
Tobacco Control Division  
3 E (R)  
St Andrew;s House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Dear Sir

**CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT SMOKING, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 ( VARIATION OF AGE LIMIT FOR SALE OF TOBACCO PURCHASE AND CONSEQUENTIAL MODIFICATIONS) ORDER 2007**

I refer to the above consultation inviting comments on the proposals outlined in the above order which proposes to raise the age of purchase of tobacco products from 16 to 18. In discussion with the Chair of Community Service Committee I would offer the undernoted comments on behalf of East Ayrshire Council

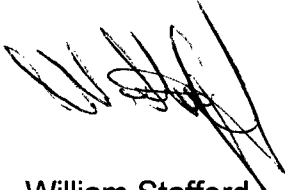
- The proposal to raise the age of purchase of tobacco products from 16 to 18 is supported. This is in line with other legal age limits including fireworks and alcohol.
- The option to increase the age limit to 18 with a 6 to 12 month period of transition is supported to ensure that an effective communication campaign is provided and that the full impact of the proposal is not lost in a longer period of transition.
- The proposal supports the recommendations made in the report of the Smoking Prevention Working Group "Towards a Future without Tobacco" which is the subject of a separate consultation process.

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS  
L O N D O N R O A D  
KILMARNOCK KA3 7BU  
TEL: 01563 576076  
FAX: 01563 576130

- There may be resource and training implications for Trading Standards enforcement staff relative to enforcing the legal age of purchase of tobacco products.

I trust the above comments are of use to you and I would take this opportunity in thanking you for submitting the consultation to East Ayrshire Council for comment.

Yours faithfully



**William Stafford**  
**Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

**c.c. Fiona Lees, Chief Executive**