



Recd 20/2/07

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Mr John Glen
Scottish Executive Health Department
Tobacco Control Division
3 E(R) St. Andrews House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Recd
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Dear Mr Glen

TOWARDS A FUTURE WITHOUT TOBACCO

The Environmental Services Committee of this Comhairle recently considered the above consultation document and in particular, the proposal to raise the age of purchase of tobacco products from 16 to 18.

This letter is to confirm that the Committee was unanimously of the view that the age of purchase of tobacco products should be raised to 18 as soon as is reasonably practicable.

In respect of the 2nd question posed by the consultation, i.e. the issues which require to be addressed in preparation for the proposed change in the legal age of purchase of tobacco and related products, the issue of funding cannot be ignored. Local Authority Trading Standards services have dwindling resources and meaningful enforcement, using test purchasing where appropriate, is a resource intensive activity. Unless resources are made available for the enforcement of this provision it will have little if any practical effect.

Should you require any clarification on the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Angus Nicolson
Chair
Environmental Services Committee