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## 2019 Policy Address Public Consultation on the regulation of Alternative Tobacco Products in Hong Kong

3 messages

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To: policyaddress@pico.gov.hk  
Cc: Paracletenz@gmail.com

19 August 2019 at 15:02

Aotearoa Vapers' Community Advocacy (AVCA)

19 August 2019

Chief Executive Mrs. Carrie Lam  
Legislative Council Secretariat, Legislative Council Complex  
[1 Legislative Council Road, Hong Kong.](#)

VIA email to: [policyaddress@pico.gov.hk](mailto:policyaddress@pico.gov.hk)

RE: 2019 Policy Address Public Consultation on the regulation on Alternative Tobacco Products in Hong Kong

Dear Madam:

We are aware that in the June meeting of the Legislative Council Bills Committee on Smoking, there were two motions raised by legislators that were passed 10-3.

- Motion 1: This committee requests the Government to suspend this Smoking Bill and re-start the consultation process, as well as listen to various views, in order to lessen social tension and confrontation
- Motion 2: As per Motion 1, and also to consider different approaches to regulate e-cigarettes, Heated Tobacco Products and other future alternative smoking products

We respectfully ask that you consider the scientific evidence before formulating any regulatory actions on Safer Nicotine Products (SNP) such as ENDS, snus and Heat Not Burn (HnB) tobacco products. It would be a great disservice to the public of Hong Kong to ban SNP whilst leaving combustible tobacco products legally available.

Since the original discussions on the issue in March, 2019, there have been additional studies done overseas that have proven the effectiveness and harm reduced qualities of Safer Nicotine Products. These add to the body of work and studies that have provided the background for many countries - including New Zealand - to promote their use as an alternative for combustible tobacco smokers and for these governments to introduce and finalise risk proportionate regulation.

Here, in New Zealand, our Ministry of Health have done their review and have begun the process of risk proportionate regulation of these products, which will hopefully be complete by early next year. They have even created a website for more information for smokers (and the general public), which you can see here: [www.vapingfacts.health.nz](http://www.vapingfacts.health.nz).

We hope to see a move towards a more considered approach to Safer Nicotine Products and their regulation that includes a regulatory impact assessment, objectively analysing and reviewing the available scientific evidence to be conducted by the Hong Kong Government before any legislation is amended, benchmarking good policy-making practices internationally.

We thank you in advance for your consideration, cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Kind Regards,  
Jan M. Walsh, Co-Director AVCA

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19 August 2019 at 15:05