



London Tobacco Alliance  
London Borough of Tower Hamlets  
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Dear Secretary of State,

Last month London launched The London Tobacco Alliance to tackle the harms from smoking with a vision to make London smokefree by 2030 in line with the Government's national ambition. As the lead members for health from across London we now call on you to match our commitment to action with your own.

Since the Government committed to make England smokefree by 2030 in the 2019 Prevention Green Paper an estimated 20,000 people have died from smoking related illness across the capital, 900,000 people still smoke and nearly 50,000 children have taken up smoking. Two thirds of those starting to smoke will become addicted smokers, over half of whom will die prematurely from smoking.

Smoking also places a burden on London's economy and health and social care systems of around £3bn every year. The cost of tobacco to people who smoke in London is £1.75bn every year, the costs of which fall on the most disadvantaged households where smoking is most common and smokers tend to be more heavily addicted. Delivering a smokefree 2030 is part of a sustainable strategy to protect the NHS and secure greater economic prosperity for our poorest communities.

We call on you to:

- Publish a Tobacco Control Plan without delay, giving due consideration to the recommendations made by the Khan Review
- Implement a levy on tobacco companies to fund the support smokers need to stop and to prevent children from taking up smoking
- Consult on raising the age of sale from 18 to 21 to protect young people from a lifetime of tobacco addiction

Prevention works. The evidence for preventative measures is strong, as is public support. Over two thirds of Londoners support a levy on tobacco companies and 58% support raising the age of sale to 21. If we work together, we can secure a smokefree future for Londoners and the wider country.

Yours Sincerely,

**Cllr Jim Dickson and Cllr Marcia Cameron** – Cabinet Members for Healthier Communities, Lambeth Council  
**Cllr Maureen Worby** – Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Integration, Barking and Dagenham Council

**Cllr Alison Moore** - Chair of Health and Well Being Board and Lead on Public Health, Barnet Council

**Cllr Neil Nerva** – Cabinet Member for Public Health & Adult Social Care, Brent Council

**Cllr Anna Wright** – Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care, Camden Council

**Cllr Josh Blacker** - Member for Healthy Lives, London Borough of Ealing

**Cllr Alev Cazimoglu** – Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, Enfield Council

**Cllr Christopher Kennedy** – Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care and Leisure, Hackney Council

**Cllr Ben Coleman** – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Hammersmith and Fulham Council

**Cllr Nurullah Turan** – Executive Member for Health and Social Care, Islington Council

**Cllr Sabah Hamed** – Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Public Health, Kingston Council

**Cllr Paul Bell** – Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Lewisham Council

**Cllr Peter McCabe** – Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, Merton Council

**Cllr Mark A. Santos** – Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Redbridge Council

**Cllr Piers Allen** - Lead member for Adult Social Care, Health & Public Health, LB Richmond upon Thames

**Cllr Evelyn Akoto** – Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, Southwark Council

**Cllr Gulam Kibria Choudhury** – Cabinet Member for Health Wellbeing and Social Care, Tower Hamlets Council

**Cllr Naheed Asghar** – Portfolio Lead Member, Health and Wellbeing, Waltham Forest Council

**Cllr Graeme Henderson** – Cabinet Member (Health), Wandsworth Council

**Cllr Nafsika Butler-Thalassis** - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Voluntary Sector, Westminster Council