



Tel [REDACTED]

email: [REDACTED]

Ms Maisie LAM
Clerk to the
Legislative Council Panel on Health

17 June 2018

email: panel_hs@legco.gov.hk
Dear Ms. Lam

Please distribute this letter to members of the Legislative Council Panel on Health

E-Cigarettes and E-smoking - Proposed Changes to legislation

I understand the Legislative Council Panel on Health will shortly debate proposed legislative changes relating to the sale and use of e-cigarettes and associated "vaping" supplies and paraphernalia.

I am concerned that many of the various medical doctors' associations in Hong Kong are still firmly of the view that the use of this type of smoking equipment is equally as dangerous to health as the habit of smoking traditional cigarettes and other pure tobacco products which contain cancer-inducing tars.

In case you are not aware, I wish to bring to your attention that these views are contrary to the professional opinions of the British Medical Association (BMA) whose council has recently reversed its previous position on this following a considerable number of studies within the British medical community.

In February 2018 the BMA published on the website this statement :

E-cigarettes

"Increasing numbers of smokers are using e-cigarettes, with many people finding them helpful in cutting down or quitting cigarette use. There are clear potential benefits to e-cigarettes in reducing the harms associated with smoking, and consensus that e-cigarette use is likely to be significantly safer than smoking. It remains important, however, that in realising any benefit to health, any potential risks associated with e-cigarette use are minimised.

May I respectfully request that if until this moment, you have been of the view that e-cigarettes and vaping products are equally as harmful to health as smoking traditional cigarettes that you study the BMA advice and revalue your own opinions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter A. Crush".

Peter A. Crush