



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Abena Oppong-Asare MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

10 January 2022

Dear Abena,

Thank you for asking about HM Treasury's position on a tobacco levy at the Finance Bill Public Bill Committee discussion on Clause 76 on 5 January 2022.

I can confirm that our position regarding the 2015 consultation stands. A levy would be a complex and costly way of raising money to fund tobacco control measures and would be unlikely to provide a stable revenue stream.

We are aware of a range of proposals put forward by public health campaigners and the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on smoking. I understand that the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is carefully considering them as part of its work on a new tobacco control plan. DHSC officials plan to discuss the financial and spending implications of any policy proposals they develop with my officials in the coming weeks.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs and other members of the Public Bill Committee and depositing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Whately
Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury