

Community Affairs Legislation Committee:

Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Bill 2024
Senate Hearing 1st May 2024 – Response to questions on notice

The Australian Council on Smoking and Health (ACOSH)
May 2024

ACOSH acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we are based, Whadjuk Noongar Country. We acknowledge Noongar Elders and families and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Question 1

Senator Louise Pratt: Would you support a referral pathway to doctors and school nurses for children and young people who are vaping, or have a suggestion for an alternative mechanism?

Answer

Within the context of the legislation under consideration, ACOSH would support a referral pathway for young people who are vaping.

All relevant professionals and organisations who engage with young people, including school nurses and counsellors, youth workers, community health and development organisations, should be able to gain the necessary skills, experience and knowledge to provide cessation support. This should be done through a nationally standardised approach.

Question 2

Senator Steele-John: If you can provide on notice any other times when yourself as the council have been engaged in the process of defining a commercial quantity, either for legislation or broader public health advice and the process you went through to arrive at that goal, so that we can see both what you've done in the past and how you would recommend the process be undertaken this time.

ACOSH has not previously been engaged in the business of defining a commercial quantity and deems this matter to be outside our expertise.

The matter should be referred to the Department of Health for consideration, with input from the Therapeutic Goods Administration and Police.