



POLICY DOCUMENT

Helping smokers in the Territory to quit
VAPING POLICY



TERRITORY ALLIANCE VAPING POLICY

Helping Smokers in the Territory to Quit

Smoking rates in the Territory are the highest in Australia. Almost one in five Territorians smoke cigarettes. With a smoking rate of 19.5%, well above the national average of 13.8%.¹

Many Territorians want to quit smoking, but quitting is hard and most people fail most of the time. Given high rates of quit attempts, we must provide new options, in addition to those we have today.

Vaping helps smokers to quit because it delivers nicotine to the body, without many of the cancer-causing chemicals found in cigarette smoke.

Most countries implemented tobacco harm reduction policies by legalising and regulating vaping, including the United Kingdom, United States, the European Union, Canada, South Africa and most recently, New Zealand.

Territory Alliance recognises that many Territorians have already used vaping to quit smoking, but face many problems because of existing regulations which typically force them to purchase nicotine from unregulated online stores overseas.

Territory Alliance believes vaping should be legal in the Northern Territory and, if elected, will introduce legislation to regulate devices, flavours and nicotine used in e-cigarettes and tobacco for heating.

Vaping is not perfect, but it is a real world solution that has worked overseas for a real world problem. And with Government having failed to lower smoking rates for so long, we need to ensure the failing while we strive for perfection doesn't

prevent us from doing good. Saving the lives of Territorians must be a priority over failed ideology. To ensure we manage the risks of vaping while giving smokers access to a tool that can help them to quit, a well-designed regulatory regime is vital.

Our legislation will ensure that vaping products are well-regulated by:

- » Banning the sale of vaping products to minors with tough penalties, greater than currently applicable to smoking.
- » Imposing product safety standards, including electronic product and battery standards.
- » Introducing labelling requirements for e-liquids, including nicotine content and ingredients disclosure.
- » Ensuring safety requirements, including tamper and child-proof packaging.



1 <https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/4364.0.55.001~2017-18~Main%20Features~Smoking~85>