News from the Welsh Government

The Health Minister has introduced the Public Health (Wales) Bill to the National Assembly for Wales

The Bill brings together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. It focuses on shaping social conditions that are conducive to good health, and where avoidable health harms can be prevented.

**If passed, the Bill will:**

1. restrict the use of tobacco and nicotine inhaling devices (such as e-cigarettes) in enclosed public places;
2. create a national register of retailers of tobacco and nicotine products;
3. prohibit the handing over of tobacco and nicotine products to under 18s;
4. create a mandatory licensing scheme for businesses/practitioners carrying out  acupuncture, body piercing, electrolysis and tattooing;
5. prohibit intimate piercing on people under 16 years old;
6. **change the way pharmaceutical services are planned to meet the needs of local communities;**
7. **require local authorities to plan for adequate access to toilet facilities for public use.**

Groups representing retired people have been campaigning for something to be done about Items 6 (Chemists) and 7 (Toilets) for years. Hopefully the Bill will be passed by the Assembly and become law.

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