



“Retailers like me are suffering from the burden of successive pieces of tobacco legislation. The last thing we need is more tax on tobacco products, which will drive up prices and push people into the illegal market. Illegal tobacco hurts retailers, taxpayers and the community. That’s why the Government should **scrap the tobacco tax escalator.**”



Councillor Suleman Khonat
TRA National Spokesperson

You can find out more about the sorts of burdens that have been placed on tobacco retailers in recent years by clicking on the headings below.

DISPLAY BAN

Prohibits the display of tobacco products in shops, except to people over the age of 18 who have asked to see them.



2009
Passed into law



2015
Came into force
(shops under 250m²)



£254m

The cost of implementing the display ban in small and independent stores
(House of Commons Library Briefing Paper)

£5,000
Per store

86%



of retailers believe that the display ban has slowed their customer response times

95%



of retailers believe that the display ban is an inconvenience for them and their staff

37%



of retailers believe that the display ban has made them feel more vulnerable to theft and/or other crime.

To find out more: www.tralliance.org.uk

PLAIN PACKAGING

Prohibits the use of all branding and requires manufacturers to standardise packaging design and colour.



2015

Passed into law



MAY 2016

Coming into force

Rise in consumption of illicit tobacco in Australia when plain packaging was introduced in 2012. (KPMG estimate)

11.8%

2012

14.3%

2015



To find out more: www.tralliance.org.uk

TOBACCO PRODUCTS DIRECTIVE (TPD)

The TPD is a piece of EU legislation and represents the biggest change in the UK tobacco market ever.



2014
Passed into law



MAY 2016
Coming into force

£1.3bn

Oxford Economics estimates that the TPD will cost the retail trade £1.3billion



TPD will ban packs of cigarettes of less than 20 and pouches of hand rolling tobacco of less than 30g

To find out more: www.tralliance.org.uk

ABOVE INFLATION DUTY ESCALATOR

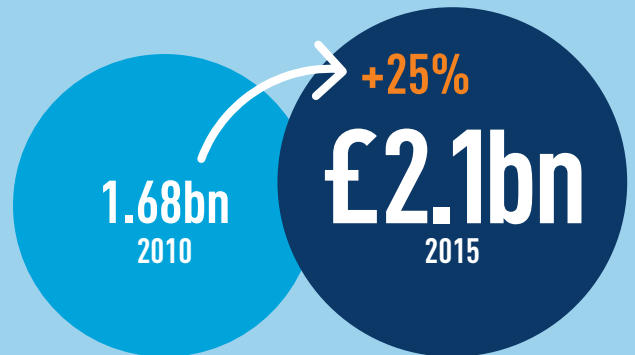
The Government has committed to raising tobacco taxation at 2% above inflation every year for the rest of this Parliament.

EXCISE DUTY

Excise duty increased by more than 40% between 2010 and 2015.



Illicit tobacco tax gap



£3.4bn

Retailers lost a total of £3.4 billion in sales as a result of the illicit trade.



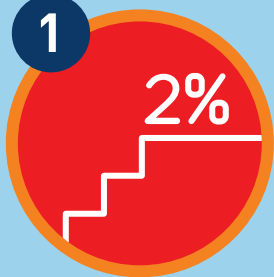
£1.5bn

Small and independent retailers lost around £1.5 billion in sales due to illicit trade in 2014/15 (£30,000 per shop).

To find out more: www.tralliance.org.uk

THE TRA IS CALLING FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO:

1



Remove the tobacco duty escalator at once, pending a review of its effectiveness

2



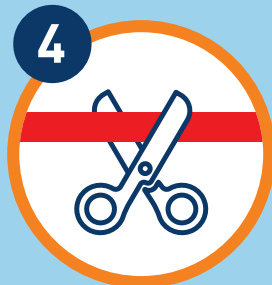
Ensure sufficient resources to tackling the illegal tobacco trade

3



Apply strict and consistent penalties to illicit traders and criminal traffickers

4



Reject calls for a licensing scheme for tobacco retailers

5



Invest the proceeds of crime from illegal tobacco sales in tackling illicit tobacco

To find out more: www.tralliance.org.uk