

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party
for the South East of England

Dame Deirdre Hine
President
BMA Head Office
BMA House,
Tavistock Square,
London WC1H 9JP

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Dear Dame Hine,

I have recently learned of a number of excellent initiatives designed to alert members of the general public to the dangers associated with mobile phone use. General Practitioners in a number of European countries are publicising information about how to use a mobile phone safely. The advice they are giving to users is based on current World Health Organisation recommendations and is displayed on posters and leaflets at surgeries and in hospitals.

I am sure you will recognise the value of such initiatives, both in terms of making people aware of the risks associated with mobile phone use, and of encouraging individuals to take responsibility for the health implications of their life-style choices. I enclose a copy of a leaflet currently being displayed in doctor's waiting rooms across Austria, to give you an idea of the kind of information being made available.

I would be very interested to learn if any similar such campaign exists in the UK and I urge the BMA to take the lead on this public health issue. Whilst the mobile phone manufacturing companies continue to assert that mobile phones and masts pose no long-term health risks, a significant body of evidence suggests that this is simply not the case. Furthermore, the WHO advocates a precautionary approach with regard to mobile phone technology. The BMA is ideally placed to encourage its members to help educate the public about these issues and indeed, I would argue, has a responsibility to do so.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your time.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.

Cc Tony Bourne - Chief Executive/Secretary