

SMOKEFREE OUTDOORS

Adopted: 23 February 2012

Updated: 1 December 2016

Review by: 1 December 2018

BACKGROUND

National policy and legislative framework provide strategic direction for local authorities on smokefree initiatives. The Smokefree Environments Act 1990 restricted smoking in workplaces, public areas, cafes, restaurants and other public areas. The Council also has the following statutory obligations that which broadly encompass community well-being:

- To provide good-quality local public services that meet the current and future needs of households and businesses, pursuant to sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government Act 2002; and
- To improve, promote and protect public health within its district, pursuant to section 23 of the Health Act 1956.

In 2011, the New Zealand government committed to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal. This goal was endorsed by the Council at a Public Services Committee meeting on 11 August 2016.

A Smokefree Strategy further aligns with the *Hurunui Long Term Plan 2015 - 2025* community outcomes, being: “A safe and desirable place to live”, and “A place that demonstrates environmental responsibility”.

PURPOSE

This strategy demonstrates the Council’s commitment to positive health and well-being outcomes by promoting the identified public spaces as smokefree.

OBJECTIVES

- Allow smokefree access to community facilities and spaces.
- De-normalise smoking behaviour.
- Reduce youth exposure to, and uptake of, smoking.
- Demonstrate community leadership by promoting positive health and well-being in public spaces.

STRATEGY DETAIL

1. Smokefree Environments

1.1 The following environments will be promoted as smokefree:

- All **Council playgrounds**
- All **Council parks and reserves**
- All **Council cemeteries**
- Within a 10 metre radius of the main entrance to the following public Council buildings:
 - **Service centres**
 - **Libraries**
 - **Community facilities and halls**
- All indoor areas of **Council rental properties**
- All **events run by the Council**

2. Implementation

- 2.1. This strategy does not constitute a prohibition on smoking in public places. No enforcement measures will be used in association with the strategy. Voluntary compliance is encouraged in keeping with the aspirational level of the strategy.
- 2.2. Signage will be installed at appropriate public spaces frequented by the community, giving particular attention to areas used by children and young people.
- 2.3. The installation of smokefree signage in remote, low usage or low exposure areas, will be considered on replacement/renewal of existing signage. In these cases, the strategy objectives will be balanced against other considerations – such as cost effectiveness and the existence of higher priority hazards in the area (e.g. cliff danger).
- 2.4. All leases for Council rental properties will include a “no smoking indoors” provision, implemented by way of a sinking lid.
- 2.5. Smokefree signage and communications for *events run by the Council* will be considered as appropriate to the nature and scale of the event. Additionally, *external agencies/individuals holding outdoor events on Council land and/or with Council sponsorship* should be made aware of this strategy and the Council’s commitment to the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal. There is no requirement that external event holders uphold this strategy.
- 2.6. The strategy will be promoted through appropriate signage and ongoing communication, as deemed necessary by the Council.

3. Monitoring and Review

- 3.1. As partners of the investigation, development and implementation of the strategy, Smokefree Canterbury member organisations will be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of the strategy.
- 3.2. The strategy will be reviewed bi-annually.

