

Policy Name:	Wairoa District Council Smoke-free Environments Policy	File Reference:	C19.01.01
Person Responsible:	Governance Advisor & Policy Strategist	Date Policy Adopted:	22 March 2015
Review Period:	Tri-annually	Status:	Final
Next Review Due By:	March 2019	Revision Number:	2
Supersedes:	Previous Policies	Date Last Revised:	28 April 2008

PURPOSE:

The Wairoa District Council (Council) has a duty to ensure a safe environment for people on its premises. Council recognises that exposure to second-hand smoke is a significant health risk. The Council will be proactive and demonstrate leadership by promoting a smoke-free lifestyle as being both desirable and the norm in Wairoa. Council will send a positive message that our children's health and the environment should be protected from the effects of smoking.

As part of the Government's goal for New Zealand to be smoke-free by 2025, Council will pursue its goals of a district where:

- Fewer people smoke in public places
- Businesses and organisations designate their premises as 'smoke-free'
- More smokers try to quit

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES:

This policy will contribute to the following Wairoa Community Outcomes:

- *A safe and secure community.*
- *A lifetime of good health and wellbeing.*
- *An environment that is appreciated, protected and sustained for future generations.*
- *Supportive, caring and valued communities.*
- *Safe and accessible recreational facilities.*
- *A community that values and promotes its culture and heritage.*

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

The Smoke-free Environments Act 1990 has had various amendments since 2011. In March 2011 the Government set a goal of becoming a smoke-free nation by 2025. This is an aspirational goal, rather than a commitment to ban smoking altogether.

The purpose of the Act is to send a clear message about the dangers of smoking and to prevent the detrimental effect of other people's smoking on the health of people who do not wish to smoke.

POLICY STATEMENTS:

That all Council owned sports field, playgrounds and open spaced reserves be deemed and promoted as smoke-free areas.

That the public be encouraged through signage and publicity to maintain a clean, healthy environment in areas that are primarily used by the community for sporting and recreational activity.

That Council appeal using signage and publicity to gain positive environmental health benefits and seek compliance from the public as opposed to enforcement. To this end the policy will be educational as opposed to penal in seeking compliance.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Smoke-free Environment Act 1990 smoking is not permitted at any time:

- (a) In any internal area of Council owned/controlled facilities/premises
- (b) In any vehicles owned, leased, or hired by Council
- (c) Within 2 metres of any external entrance to a Council owned facility/premises or air duct to an air conditioning/handling system.

Council will partner with organisations and agencies to encourage and support any business or organisation to designate their premises as a Smoke-free area, where staff and visitors are encouraged to refrain from smoking.

Council will work with partner organisations and agencies to promote the benefits of becoming a Smoke-free area, and to assist businesses and organisations to join together to become a Smoke-free block.

Any events run, funded or supported by the Council will be Smoke-free events and have the display and announcement of smoke-free messages in advertising and at the event.

This policy sits alongside Council's existing Smoke-free/Auahi Kore Policy (effective 1 September 2012) and the Hawke's Bay District Health Board Smokefree 2025 Strategy

ENFORCEMENT

Council will not pursue any direct enforcement of this policy. However, Council may investigate and adopt measures, including appropriate bylaws, which support the policy purpose and statements.

Council will work with organisations and agencies to support a positive approach to encouraging people to refrain from smoking in public places, and to encourage smokers to quit smoking.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION:

The Council will work with the Hawke's Bay District Health Board, Wairoa Primary Healthcare Organisation and other health related agencies to ensure information relating to the legislation, quitting smoking and the health impacts of smoking and passive smoking are easily accessible to the community.

