



**Policy Name: Policy Position on the Smoke-Free Environments
(Workplace & Public Spaces)**

Person Responsible:	Community Services & Development Manager	Date Policy Adopted:	30 May 2005
Review Period:	Annually	Status:	Final
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Supersedes:	Previous Policies	Date Last Revised:	

PURPOSE

South Taranaki District Council will be proactive and demonstrate leadership by promoting a smoke free lifestyle as being both desirable and the norm in South Taranaki. By focusing on six key areas, the Council will send a positive message that our children's health and the environment should be protected from the effects of smoking.

The six key areas are:-

- Work Place;
- Council owned swimming pools and outdoor surrounds;
- Council owned enclosed public facilities;
- Council owned playgroups and parks;
- Supporting business to protect the environment; and
- Information and education.

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

The policy will contribute to Taranaki Regional Community Outcomes:-

"A region that provides a safe, healthy and friendly place to work, live or visit"

"A region that appreciates its natural environment and its physical and human resources in planning, delivery and protection"

The policy will contribute to District Community Outcomes:-

"Our natural environment is continually enhanced through programmes which reflect our community's sense of kaitiakitanga (caring and protection)".

"All residents are able to access the health services, education and information they want"

"Our residents feel safe in their homes and in their communities"

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

On 3 December 2003, an amendment to the Smoke Free Environments Act 1990 was passed requiring, among other things:

- a) Buildings and grounds of schools and early childhood centres to be smoke free by 1 January 2004;

- b) Licensed premises to become smoke free indoors from 10 December 2004;
- c) Other workplaces to become smoke free indoors – including offices, factories, warehouses, work canteens and *smoko rooms* from 10 December 2004;
- d) The display of tobacco products in retail outlets restricted and a *smoking kills* sign erected near the display from 10 December 2004; and
- e) Access of smoking products to those under 18 years further restricted.

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.

KEY POLICY AREAS

Work Place

All Council workplaces are smoke free work environments, including Council vehicles and swimming pools. The buildings listed below are designated smoke free.

- Hawera Library Plus;
- Opunake Library Plus;
- Eltham Library Plus;
- Patea Library Plus;
- Waverley Library Plus;
- Kaponga Library Plus;
- Manaia Library Plus;
- Information South Taranaki;
- Administration Building, Hawera;
- Eltham Community Building;
- Opunake Community Building; and
- Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Council-Owned Swimming Pools

All Council-owned swimming pools are designated smoke free areas, including the outdoor area surrounding the pools. Appropriate signage will be displayed at the entrance of each pool and inside the grounds of each swimming pool.

Council-Owned Enclosed Public Spaces

All Council-owned enclosed public facilities, such as public halls, are smoke free. Appropriate signage will be clearly displayed and a cigarette butt receptacle will be provided outside all public halls.

Council-Owned Parks and Playgrounds

The public will be asked to refrain from smoking in Council-owned playgrounds and parks. Signage will be displayed at the entrance to parks and by the children's play ground area asking people to refrain from smoking. Messages on the signage will focus on the positive rather than the punitive.

Events held in the park will be consistently promoted as *smoke free events*.

Supporting Business and Protecting the Environment

The Council will provide cigarette butt receptacles to identified licensed premises. Stainless steel cigarette butt receptacles will be offered, free of charge, to proprietors of identified licensed premises that have the greatest potential to negatively impact on environment and main street appearance. Identified licensed premises proprietors who access the free cigarette butt receptacles would be expected to meet the Council criteria with regard to placement of the receptacle to minimise the potential of patrons congregating on the main street and blocking footpath access to other members of the community.

Other businesses could purchase cigarette butt receptacles, at cost, from the Council

Information and Education

The Council will provide information to the public on smoke free legislation and related health issues. The Council will work with the District Health Board and other health related agencies to ensure information relating to the new legislation and the health impacts of smoking and passive smoking are easily accessible to the community. Brochures will be on hand for distribution and officers will be available to provide helpful information to those making enquiries.