

Policy Name:	Wairoa District Council Smoke-free Environments Policy	File Reference:	C19.01.01
Person Responsible:	Policy Analyst	Date Policy Adopted:	13 May 2008
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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.

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:

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.

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.

This policy sits alongside Council's existing Smoke-free/Auahi Kore Policy (effective 1 June 2005).

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 and the health impacts of smoking and passive smoking are easily accessible to the community.