

COUNCIL POLICY

TITLE:	SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC PLACES
MEETING:	Regulatory & Services
EFFECTIVE DATE:	Progressively from 19 December 2011
FILE REFERENCE:	110800
MINUTE BOOK PAGE(S):	38378 - 38381

1. INTRODUCTION

This is an educational policy which is not enforced by Council. The policy encourages adults to be positive role models for children and young people by not smoking in public places. Compliance relies on people who smoke accepting that not smoking in certain places is considerate, healthy and the 'right' thing to do. Signage displayed in smoke-free public places empowers non-smokers to be more vocal about not wanting other people to smoke around them. The policy is therefore enforced from within the Community itself.

This policy was adopted on 13 September 2011 and is effective from the date on which signs are erected in the applicable playgrounds and parks listed in the Schedule.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to:

- De-normalise smoking in public places, so as to promote positive influences for children and young people
- Enable people to avoid being involuntarily exposed to second-hand smoke in public places

3. PRINCIPLES

- The Community has a responsibility to provide positive influences for children and young people
- A smoke-free environment is consistent with the purpose for which parks and reserves are set aside, which is to provide areas for recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public
- Nobody should be forced to be exposed to second-hand smoke
- Council has a responsibility to take reasonable steps to prevent nuisance and harm to people in areas it owns or controls

4. DEFINITIONS

Public places means all those places owned or controlled by Kawerau District Council as listed in the Schedule to this policy.

5. BACKGROUND

Following amendments to the Smoke Free Environments Act effective from 2004, an increasing number of local authorities around New Zealand began to adopt educational smoke-free policies for public places. Such policies have been promoted by Toi Te Ora Public Health in the Bay of Plenty and are now also being implemented by an increasing number of district councils in this region.

6. POLICY STATEMENT

- Council will encourage people not to smoke in public places by erecting signs and/or adding logos to existing signs
- Signs will be located in entrances and/or parts of public areas where high concentrations of people gather
- Messages on signage and logos will focus on the positive aspects of being smoke-free
- This is an educational policy and compliance will be achieved by cooperation from within the Community
- The policy applies to all the public places listed in the Schedule

7. RELEVANT DELEGATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer or his/her nominee has delegated authority for the implementation of this policy.

8. REFERENCES AND RELEVANT LEGISLATION

The Smoke Free Environments Act 1990 and its amendments.

9. REVIEW

The public places in the Schedule will be reviewed 12 months after the policy is adopted.

Schedule - Public Places

The Smoke-free Public Places Policy applies to all the public places listed below:

1. All children's playgrounds owned by Council
2. The Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex
3. The Rangi Delamere Courts
4. The skate park, BMX track and children's playground located between Glasgow Street and the Ron Hardie Recreation Centre.