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Sponsor/Group:	General Manager Community

Hamilton City Smoke-Free Environment Policy

Purpose and scope

1. Council has an obligation to promote public health outcomes where it provides assets and services intended to be of benefit to children and other members of the community. It also has a role in protecting the natural environment and the amenity of the local area by reducing the amount of cigarette butt litter found in outdoor spaces.
2. This Policy identifies the areas in the city where smoking is prohibited.
3. This Policy supports the Hamilton City Council Smoke-Free Workplaces Management Policy. Taken together, these policies represent Council's commitment to the national goal of supporting New Zealand to become a smoke-free nation by 2025.

Definitions

Definition	Detail
Smoking	<p>Smoking is the act of inhaling and exhaling the smoke of burning cigarettes, pipes, cigars or other paraphernalia.</p> <p>For the purposes of this Policy, this activity includes to smoke, hold, or otherwise have control over an ignited product or thing whose customary use is or includes the inhalation from it of the smoke produced from its combustion or the combustion of any part of it.</p> <p>For clarity this includes tobacco or herbal tobacco product and/or psychoactive substances including synthetic cannabis.</p>

Principles

4. Council will provide community leadership in supporting the national goal of supporting New Zealand to become a smoke-free nation by 2025.
5. Council recognises its role in restricting smoking at selected public locations.
6. Council acknowledges that banning smoking will improve public amenity and maintenance of Council property.
7. Council recognises it's supporting role in raising community awareness of the issues associated with smoking

Smoke-free environments

8. In order to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, the detrimental effects of smoking on the health of any person who does not smoke or who does not wish to be exposed to second hand smoke, smoking is prohibited in the following places:
 - a. Garden Place and Civic Square.
 - b. Within ten (10) metres of all Hamilton City Council playgrounds.

- c. Within ten (10) metres of Council owned or operated buildings and facilities.
 - d. The entire precinct of the Hamilton Transport Centre and Hamilton Gardens.
 - e. Pembroke St (from the corner Selwyn St to Ohaupo Rd) and Selwyn St surrounding Waikato Hospital.
 - f. All Hamilton City parks and sports fields.
 - g. All bus stops and shelters within the Hamilton City boundaries.
 - h. Ward St (from Victoria St to the end of Worley Place and the commencement of the Centre Place pedestrian mall).
9. Council may, from time to time, by resolution specify any part or parts of the city as a smoke-free public place. This will be publicly consulted before it takes effect.
10. All events run or sponsored by Hamilton City Council will be smoke-free.

Education and Enforcement

11. The successful implementation and continued success of this Policy will require a collaborative approach to communication and education between Council and the membership of CHANCES.
12. This Policy is educational and will be self-policing and supported by persuasion rather than punitive enforcement.

Signage

13. Wherever practicable, the areas where smoking is prohibited will be signposted, to communicate smoke-free zones.
14. Council will collaborate with key smoke-free advocacy groups to communicate the intent of the Policy through the media including social media to and educate the public.

Education, understanding and communication

15. Council is committed to ensuring that both elected members and staff have awareness and understanding of the issues that affect the disability community. This relates particularly to planning, building and the built environment.
16. Communication with people with disabilities allows and encourages full access to Council information, events, services and facilities. Information is appropriate and provided in accessible formats.

Advocacy and cultural change

17. The Social Wellbeing, Active Communities and Access Hamilton strategies will provide opportunities to remove barriers to participation and contribution to community life for people with disabilities.
18. Council will advocate for access and equity to Government and other organisations in partnership with and on behalf of people with disabilities where this is appropriate.
19. Council will encourage other organisations in the city to provide an accessible environment for people with disabilities by modelling and publicising best practice.

Facilities, services and access

20. Council infrastructure will be accessible and meet best practice standards where geographically and financially practicable.
21. Council, in its service delivery, will endeavour to remove barriers to access for people with disabilities.

22. Council will provide appropriate parking for people with disabilities to enable permit holders to park close to their destination.

Monitoring and implementation

23. Hamilton City Council will work with the constituent organisations of CHANCES to monitor public compliance with the policy. This will be undertaken on a six monthly basis for the first year (or on the introduction of new areas) and annually thereafter.
24. The Policy will be reviewed every three years or at the request of Council or in response to changed legislative and statutory requirements or in response to any further issues that may arise.

References

- Health Act 1956.
- Local Government Act 2002.
- Smoke-free Environment Amendments Act 2004.
- Smoke-free Environment Act 1990.
- www.smokefree.org.nz