



2019

Smokefree & Vapefree Policy

Public Outdoor Areas and Public Events

our home, our future
tō tātou rohe kāinga, tō tatau ao tūroa



Contents

- 1. Introduction..... 1
- 2. Objectives..... 1
- 3. Policy..... 2
 - 3.1. Smokefree & Vapefree Public Outdoor Areas 2
 - 3.2. Smokefree & Vapefree Public Events 2
 - 3.3. Smokefree & Vapefree Signage and Information 2
- 4. Enforcement..... 2
- 5. Glossary..... 3
- 6. Review..... 3
- 7. Document management and control..... 3

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Smokefree & Vapefree Policy for Public Outdoor Areas and Public Events (policy) encourages people to refrain from smoking and vaping by promoting smokefree and vapefree public outdoor areas and public events. This policy will help to achieve the Hauraki District Council's long term goal of creating a smokefree district.
- 1.2. This policy also aligns with the Government's goal of becoming a smokefree nation by 2025 and smokefree legislation¹.
- 1.3. This policy helps the Council meet its obligations to promote the social, economic and cultural interests of its current and future communities including public health ². It also relates to one of the key pillars of the Council's Social Strategy; *Safe and Healthy Communities*. It meets a goal of the strategy to support policy and organisations promoting healthy lifestyles.
- 1.4. This policy is an educational policy which is not enforced by the Council. The Council relies on people who smoke or vape accepting that not smoking or vaping in certain places is considerate, healthy and the 'right' thing to do.
- 1.5. Signage displayed in smokefree and vapefree public outdoor areas and at public events empowers non-smokers to assert that they don't want to be exposed to second hand smoke or vaping behaviour. The policy is therefore promoted by the public.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. The main objective of this policy is to encourage adults to be positive role models for children and young people by not smoking or vaping in public outdoor areas and at public events.
- 2.2. Further objectives of this policy are to:
 - a) improve the health and wellbeing of Hauraki District communities by reducing the prevalence of smoking and de-normalising smoking and vaping behaviour
 - b) positively influence children and young people by de-normalising smoking and vaping in public outdoor areas and at public events
 - c) encourage people who smoke or vape to not do it in public outdoor areas and at public events
 - d) empower people who do not smoke to avoid being involuntarily exposed to second hand smoke in public outdoor areas and at public events
 - e) to communicate and promote "working towards a smokefree Hauraki District" and "Smokefree Aotearoa 2025".

¹ Smokefree Environments Act 1990, Part 1 Smokefree workplaces and public areas.

² Giving effect to the sustainable development approach provided for under the Local Government Act 2002 and section 23 of the Health Act 1956 which makes it the duty of every local authority to improve, promote, and protect public health within its district.

3. Policy

3.1. Smokefree & Vapefree Public Outdoor Areas

- a) The public will be asked to not smoke or vape in the following public outdoor areas within the Hauraki District:

- All Council-controlled:
 - children’s playgrounds
 - sports grounds (including courts and turfs)
 - skate parks
 - bus shelters
- In close proximity of the entrances to Council offices and libraries
- The Hauraki Rail Trail

3.2. Smokefree & Vapefree Public Events

- a) Public events held at any of the Council’s smokefree and vapefree public outdoor areas will be required to be smokefree.
- b) Where the Council contributes funding for an event, the organisers will be encouraged to promote and brand the events as smokefree and vapefree.

3.3. Smokefree & Vapefree Signage and Information

- a) Smokefree and vapefree signage will be displayed where it is considered to be most effective to discourage smoking or vaping in public outdoor areas, and at public events (as identified in section 3.1 and 3.2 of this policy).
- b) Other information supporting a smokefree district will be displayed or developed where appropriate (e.g. website, Council documents such as reserve management plans).

4. Enforcement

- 4.1. This policy aims to achieve behaviour change by promoting a positive smokefree and vapefree message. Compliance with the policy is voluntary and is not enforced by the Council. Compliance is instead encouraged by educating the public to model and promote appropriate behaviour, which in turn encourages others to be smokefree and vapefree.
- 4.2. The Council will work in collaboration with the Waikato District Health Board, the Cancer Society and other community organisations to implement the policy through public awareness including signage.

5. Glossary

Council controlled	Means either owned or operated by the Council, or the Council has legislative responsibility for.
Public events	Means planned public occasions.
Public outdoor areas	Means land and/or open air facilities (such as playgrounds) which are controlled by the Council.
Non regulatory	Means that the rules are not enforced by law.
Smokefree & Vapefree	Means where people refrain from the smoking of tobacco products or the vaping of electronic cigarettes or similar devices.
Smoking or to smoke	(a) means to smoke, hold, or otherwise have control over an ignited tobacco product, weed, or plant; and (b) 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; but (c) does not include to hold or have control over an ignited product or thing customarily used as incense. <i>(this is consistent with the definition in Smokefree Environments Act 1990)</i>
Vaping or to vape	Means to inhale and exhale the vapour produced by an electronic cigarette or similar device.

6. Review

- 6.1. The policy will be reviewed within 6 months after the first policy is adopted by the Council and then at intervals determined by the Council.

7. Document management and control

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