

Upper Hutt City Council

Smokefree Upper Hutt Policy

1. Introduction

Upper Hutt City Council is taking a leadership role to ensure that Upper Hutt:

- is a healthy community;
- has a healthy natural environment with clean air, water and land; and
- has a built environment that is attractive, safe, and healthy.

Smokefree outdoor public places contribute toward further de-normalising smoking in Upper Hutt and achieving the goal of a Smokefree Aotearoa 2025. The Smokefree Aotearoa goal is that fewer than 5 percent of New Zealanders will be smokers by 2025. The government approach is that this will be achieved by:

- protecting children from exposure to tobacco marketing and promotion;
- reducing the supply of, and demand for tobacco; and
- providing the best possible support for quitting.

2. Objectives

- further denormalise smoking for children and young people by reducing its visibility in public places;
- contribute to improved health and wellbeing by reducing smoking and the impacts of second-hand smoke.

3. Approach

The Smoke-free Environments Act 1990 prohibits smoking in workplaces and certain public areas, but smoking is not illegal.

Smokefree Upper Hutt contributes to making our city increasingly smokefree. The policy discourages smoking in outdoor public places in Upper Hutt primarily through signage, promotion and marketing, education, and engagement with stakeholders and communities.

4. Smokefree spaces in Upper Hutt

- a. Within 20 metres of all parks, reserves and sportsgrounds
- b. Within 20 metres of all children's playgrounds, including skateparks
- c. Council-run or Council funded events
- d. Bus stops and shelters
- e. Train stations
- f. Within nine metres of outdoor public areas around Council buildings and facilities
- g. Outdoor dining and drinking areas on footpaths
- h. Outdoor public areas in the city centre¹
- i. Taxi ranks

5. Vaping

Vaping products, also known as e-cigarettes, are devices that produce a vapour by heating a solution (e-liquid). Council, through its publicity and communication, asks that people not vape in smokefree spaces or at smokefree events. Signage will include a 'no vaping' message where appropriate.

6. Implementation

The policy will be delivered as per the implementation plan, taking a cross-Council approach and working with external partners as appropriate particularly in regard to education and engagement.

The focus for signage is firstly on areas where children and families congregate or socialise, and areas where smoking rates are high. Implementation of the policy includes signage and messaging in Te Reo Māori.

For bus stops, bus shelters, and train stations, Council will work with Greater Wellington Regional Council and other partners to add and renew signage.

7. Review

The implementation of the policy will be reviewed by December 2021, with an official review of the policy by July 2023.

¹ The city centre refers to the CBD, as defined by the Upper Hutt City Council Liquor Bylaw.

Implementation plan

Communication, engagement, and monitoring	Responsibility	Timeframe
Develop and deliver an internal communications plan with staff, including feedback on the staff survey, an updated staff manual, and all subsequent policies that may be impacted by this policy.	Director Community Services, Performance and Capability Manager, Chief Executive	Sept 2020
Develop a communication plan that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ signage and messaging, to include cessation support messaging where appropriate ▪ identification of opportunities and channels for smokefree messaging ▪ identification and utilisation of placement opportunities for signage and messaging ▪ plan for an annual billboard and social media campaign for World Smokefree Day ▪ development and execution of engagement with tamariki and rangitahi ▪ development and execution of a campaign for a Smokefree Summer for 2020 	Director Community Services, Director Business Services and Customer Engagement	Sept 2020
Establish an implementation plan group to support the implementation of the policy	Director Community Services	Aug 2020
Develop monitoring, review and evaluation of the policy	Director Community Services, Director Business Services and Customer Engagement	July 2021
Contribute to engagement with central government for strengthened smokefree legislation and vaping regulation	Director of Community Services	As required
Partnerships and collaboration		
Explore opportunities to work with neighbouring councils and partners on smokefree activities and communication	Director Community Services	Sept 2020
Further development of partnerships with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the education sector for smokefree areas outside out education settings • Orongomai Marae • other groups that support Maori cessation services linking to employers for increased voluntary smokefree spaces • community groups having smoking cessation and health promotion specifically as part of their kaupapa • participation in regional tobacco control interest groups • health sector partners, including medical centres and pharmacies 	Director Community Services	ongoing

Smokefree areas and events	Responsibility	
Review signage for parks and playgrounds and add or renew signage	Director Asset Management and Operations	August 2020
Work with Greater Wellington Regional Council to designate bus shelters and train stations smokefree	Director Community Services	August 2020
Work with businesses to designate outdoor pavement dining and drinking areas smokefree	Director Community Services, Director Asset Management and Operations and Director Business Services and Customer Engagement	August 2020
Work to make Council run and funded events smokefree	All teams that are responsible for events	Sept 2020
Designate outdoor public areas around Council buildings smokefree, including the civic centre	Director of Community Services	Sept 2020
Cessation support	Responsibility	
Help link smokers to cessation support	Performance and Capability Manager and team	Sept 2020