

# POLICY

## SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Date First Adopted:

Date Last Reviewed:

**Division:** Planning & Development

**Status:**

Strategic:



Key Result Area:

**Vision:**

- To reduce the number of smokers and smoking related diseases in Cockburn

**Objective:**

- To protect the community by reducing their exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.

Administrative



Business Unit:

Service Unit: Environmental Health Services

**Background:**

On 14 February 2008, Council resolved to implement a Tobacco Action plan with three key objectives/actions including the implementation of Smoke Free Policies in public places under Council jurisdiction. Creating policies that limit the public places people can smoke protects the community from the harmful effects of environmental tobacco smoke.

There is substantial evidence linking exposure to environmental tobacco smoke with a range of serious and life threatening health impacts including heart disease, cancer, asthma and other respiratory problems. Children exposed to environmental tobacco smoke are at an increased risk of asthma, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections and ear problems. While most of the evidence relates to indoor exposure, there is emerging evidence on how smoking affects air quality in outdoor locations such as sporting grounds and playgrounds.

A recent study which measured cigarette smoke levels in a variety of outdoor locations showed that a person sitting near a smoker in an outdoor area could be exposed to levels of cigarette smoke similar to the exposure of someone sitting in an indoor tavern where smoking is allowed. Therefore, the second-hand smoke in outdoor areas where people tend to congregate, such as alfresco dining areas, sports stadiums and concert venues etc can present a real health risk to patrons and staff.

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**Purpose:**

The purpose of this Policy is to:-

1. Reduce the community's exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, and
2. Increase the awareness of the dangers of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke

**Policy:**Measures

Smoking will be prohibited:

1. Within 10 metres of all children's playground equipment
2. Within 10 metres of sporting facility building entrances
3. Within 10 metres of any other persons on Council playing fields or sporting grounds
4. Within 10 metres of any other persons on City of Cockburn beaches, dunes or jetties
5. Within all covered bus stops
6. Within 10 metres of the entrances of Council owned or managed buildings including balconies or covered areas of the buildings
7. At all Council run or sponsored events on its beaches, reserves, parks, ovals and playing fields

Signs and/or stickers will inform the community that these areas are smoke-free. Compliance will be self-regulatory.

**Delegation:**

Refer to the Delegated Register.