



# Smokefree Policy

28 June 2017

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Smokefree Policy is to reduce the visibility of smoking in the Masterton district and promote a clean, safe and healthy environment for our community.

## **SCOPE**

This policy sets out MDC's position and commitment in relation to smokefree public places and events.

## **MDC'S SMOKEFREE COMMITMENT**

MDC supports the Government's goal of making New Zealand smokefree<sup>1</sup> by 2025 and recognises that Council has a role in achieving this aspiration within the Masterton community. MDC will encourage a smokefree environment with the aim of:

- reducing the visibility of smoking;
- reducing the number of people smoking in public places;
- normalising smokefree environments, particularly around children and young people;
- supporting former smokers to remain smokefree; and
- supporting smokers to quit.

## **SMOKEFREE PUBLIC PLACES**

MDC has designated the following public places as smokefree:

- MDC-owned parks, playgrounds, sportsgrounds and reserves;
- outside the main entrance of the Trust House Recreation Centre;
- within the fenced boundary of the outdoor swimming pools;
- the plaza at the main entrance of the town hall;
- the public entrance to the library and the adjacent garden area;
- the public entrance to MDC's Queen Street office; and
- bus stops, including a 10 metre perimeter from bus shelters, signs or bus stop markings.

MDC also encourages the following places to be smokefree:

- council owned seating in public areas; and
- areas set up primarily for café or dining purposes in publicly owned land.

## **SMOKEFREE EVENTS**

MDC recognises the role that public events can play in promoting a positive smokefree message.

It is encouraged that all events funded or supported by MDC will encourage a smokefree environment and display and announce smokefree messages in advertising and at the event.

---

<sup>1</sup> In this context, smokefree is defined as less than 5% of the population regularly smoking.

## IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be implemented through:

- the placement of smokefree signs at designated non-smoking areas;
- incorporating the national Smokefree/Auahi kore brand into appropriate signs, posters and other media communications wherever possible;
- communicating positive smokefree messages in advertising and through promotional media campaigns whenever appropriate;
- raising awareness of the policy to encourage smokefree outdoor dining when Environmental Health staff undertake assessments of food premises;
- collaborating with key advocacy groups to actively promote the smokefree message ; and
- making submissions on central government tobacco issues, as appropriate.

Businesses that wish to designate locations that they own or control as smoke-free, may be provided smoke-free signs or stickers, as available.

## ENFORCEMENT

This policy is educational and focused on promoting a positive smoke-free message rather than strict enforcement.

If MDC determines at a later date that policing and enforcement is required, a bylaw will be drafted and adopted following consultation with the community.

## REVIEW OF POLICY

This policy will be reviewed every three years.

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

None.

## REFERENCES

Smoke-free Environments Act 1990  
Health Act 1956

## VERSION CONTROL

Date	Summary of Amendments	Approved By
June 2009	New policy	Masterton District Council
28/6/2017	Expansion of designated smokefree areas.	Masterton District Council

<b>Policy Number:</b>	MDC021
<b>Review Date:</b>	28 June 2020