

CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL POLICY

Policy Number	05 – 03 – 003	Smokefree Public Places
Prepared by	Manager, District Assets	
Authorised by	Council	
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Policy on Smokefree Public Places

Purpose

Active smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke contributes to the deaths of approximately 5,000 New Zealanders every year.

The purpose of this policy is to support a Smokefree environment in our public parks, playgrounds, sportsgrounds and at Council organised family orientated events. This in turn shows the Council's stance of providing a healthy environment for our youth, free from second hand smoke.

The main objective of this policy is to reduce the number of youth taking up smoking and to discourage smoking in places where children and young people in particular gather.

Another positive effect will be to create a sustainable environment that lives up to the District's clean, green image by helping to cut down on incorrectly discarded cigarette butts polluting our playgrounds and waterways. This will ensure our parks & playgrounds are an attractive feature of our district.

Policy

A Smokefree stance will be promoted in our public parks, playgrounds, Council owned sportsgrounds and at other family orientated events organised by the Council so as to promote the Council's Smokefree stance for the Clutha District. Signage to this effect will be erected to make people aware of this.

Key Policy Areas:

Signage will be erected in council owned parks, sportsgrounds and playgrounds as priority and budget allows.

Compliance with the Smokefree policy would be voluntary and would not be enforced so as to penalise the smokers in the community, but it would be hoped that the policy would encourage an example to be set by all.

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Procedures

The Council will work with Smokefree Otago to continue to implement the Smokefree message throughout the Clutha District and help set an example so our youth no longer see smoking as the “norm” in our community.

Relevant Legislation

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) states that one of the purposes of the Council is to promote the social, economic, environmental & cultural well-being of the community, in the present & for the future. Section 11 of LGA 2002 provides that the role of councils is to give effect to their purpose, and perform the duties & exercise the rights conferred on them by, or under, LGA 2002. Section 23 of the Health Act 1956 also states that is the duty of every council to improve, promote & protect public health within its district.