

9.6 SMOKEFREE OUTDOOR SPACES POLICY

Date Adopted	Next Review	Officer Responsible
10 July 2020	30 June 2023	Strategy Development Manager, Sustainability & Social Development

Policy Purpose:

The objective of this policy is to improve the health and wellbeing of Rotorua communities by reducing the prevalence of smoking and de-normalising smoking behaviour. This aligns with the Government’s goal of becoming a smokefree nation by 2025 and is consistent with the purpose of the Smokefree Environments Act 1990, Part 1 Smokefree workplaces and public areas.

Principles:

- The wellbeing of children and young people is a central consideration for the policy.
- Where possible, high-density areas and places where people congregate should be prioritised.
- In order for the council to lead by example, areas that people directly associate with the council should be prioritised.
- The policy should encourage behavioural change in a manner that is acceptable to and supported by Rotorua’s communities.
- The policy should focus on promoting a positive smokefree message, especially to children and young people.

Policy:

1. Approach

The policy follows a non-regulatory approach aimed at behaviour change and promoting a positive smokefree 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. Council will work in collaboration with Toi te Ora Public Health Unit and other community organisations to implement the policy through public awareness including signage. The public will be asked to refrain from smoking or use of electronic cigarette-like devices in the following public places and at public events.

2. Smokefree Public Places

The following public places will be smokefree:

Locations
Council-managed Tokorangi Forest
Council-owned playgrounds
Rotorua Community Youth Centre Trust premises
Tennis facilities – Lynmore, Okareka and Manuka Crescent Tennis Club
Child care and early childhood education centres
Public toilets
Sports areas – hockey turfs and netball courts
Kuirau Park - Rotary North Market
Council workplace properties
All bus stops and shelters
i-Site and library surrounds including Jean Batten Park
All sportsgrounds
Rotorua International Stadium
All youth spaces and skate parks
All Council-controlled reserves and parks including lakefront reserves
Outdoor pavement eating places
Eat Street
Markets held in the inner city
Entrances and exits to public buildings and facilities used by the public

3. Smokefree events

Rotorua Lakes Council recognises the role that public events can play in promoting a positive smokefree message. Accordingly, under this policy all council-delivered events as well as events held at any of council's smokefree public places will be smokefree. As more public places become smokefree, more events will adopt a smokefree status.

All agreements for the hire or rent of Council premises or reserves, or receiving Council funding for events will be required to include a Smokefree event clause from 1 February 2017.