

SMOKE FREE FESTIVAL, EVENTS AND COUNCIL FACILITIES

Policy Number:	TBA /2015	Directorate:	Corporate Development Community Services
Approval by:	Council	Responsible Officer:	Manager Youth, Leisure and Cultural Services (Festivals and Events) Manager Community Infrastructure(facilities) Manager Finance (Property)
Approval Date:	22 September 2015	Version Number:	4
Review Date:	12 months		

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Policy is to designate smoke free areas:

- Within Council owned facilities
- At Council operated festivals and events

Through the implementation of this policy Council aims to:

- Improve the health of community members through reducing exposure to second hand smoke
- Improve public amenity, maintenance and reduce risk of fire from cigarettes in/on Council property
- Minimise cigarette butt pollution on council owned parks, land and other outdoor areas
- Prohibit the buying or selling of tobacco and other related products within any Council building, reserve or facility.

2. CONTEXT

Smoking tobacco is recognised as one of the largest preventable causes of death and disease in Australia. Each year, smoking kills an estimated 15,000 Australians¹ (4,000 Victorians) and costs Australia \$31.5 billion² in social (including health) and economic costs. In Knox 17.6% of adults smoke; this is higher than the Victorian average of 13% (VPHS 2011).

Even low levels of exposure to second-hand smoke increase the risk of cardiovascular disease and acute cardiac events. Children's respiratory and immune systems are particularly vulnerable to the damaging effects of second-hand smoke. Smoke-free areas also promote healthy behaviours, reduce young people's exposure to role modelling of smoking behaviour, de-normalise smoking, decrease smoking cues for quitters and former smokers, support smokers who are trying to quit and reduce their overall cigarette consumption.

The 2014 and 2015 amendments to the Victorian Tobacco Act 1987 legislate that the following areas are now smoke free.

- Outdoor Playgrounds;
- Public Swimming Pools;
- Skate Parks;
- Sporting facilities scheduled for junior sporting activities;
- Within the outdoor or un-enclosed area of an Education and Care Service or Children's Services premises while they are being used to provide a children's service or education and care service.
- Within four metres of any pedestrian access point to a Children's Service or Education and Care Service premises while they are being used to provide a children's service or education and care service. This applies only to those who are intending to enter the premises.

3. SCOPE

This Policy applies to Council operated festivals and events and Council facilities.

4. REFERENCES

- Victorian Tobacco Act (1987)
- Environment Protection Act (1970) – littering both public and private property.
- Knox City Council Tenancy by Community Groups of Council Buildings Policy (Policy number 2004/24 due for review 2018)
- Knox City Council Draft Licence Agreements
- Knox City Council Seasonal Tenancy agreement
- Knox City Council Smokefree Workplace Policy 2015 (DRAFT)

5. DEFINITIONS

Council facility	A Council owned or controlled building(s) and/or grounds that is owned, leased or otherwise under Council's control and may include car parks, roadways, paths, parks and open public space.
Council festivals and events	Includes Knox City Council's Stringybark Urban Sustainability festival, Knox Festival, Knox City Council's Carols by Candlelight and Knox City Council's Pet's in the Park Expo
Enclosed area	An area, room or premises that is substantially enclosed by a roof and walls, regardless of whether the roof or walls or any part of them are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permanent or temporary; and/or• Open or closed.
Smoke free areas	Any area sign posted as smoke free in which smoking and or sale of tobacco products are not permitted.
Smoking	Holding, inhaling or otherwise having control over an ignited tobacco product.

6. COUNCIL POLICY

Council is committed to improving the health of the community by limiting their exposure to second hand smoke, reducing butt litter and mitigating the risk of fire from cigarettes on Council land and in Council owned facilities.

6.1 Council facilities: smoke free areas are-

For application of this Policy, the following areas are declared as smoke free areas:

- Within the enclosed area(s) of the Council facility
- Within 4 meters of an enclosed area of a Council facility.

6.2 Council festivals and events: smoke free areas are-

- The area contained within the sign-posted boundary of the Council festival and/or event as designated by the respective festival event current site plan.

6.3 Responsibilities:

CEO, Directors Managers, Coordinators and Team Leaders

- Ensuring that tenants/leasee are made aware of this Policy.
- Ensuring the community attending festivals and events are reasonably made aware of this Policy.

Tenants/leasee

- Ensure compliance with tenancy agreements and this Policy.

6.4 Any breach of this Policy by a tenant/leasee of Council facilities may result in termination of licence or lease agreements.

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Further information and assistance relating to tobacco related health effects and the prevailing laws.

<http://www.quit.org.au/>

www.quitnow.gov.au/

<http://www.cancervic.org.au/>

<http://www.tobaccoinaustralia.org.au/chapter-15-smokefree-environment/15-7-legislation>
