Smokefree Urban Areas in New Zealand

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Smokefree Urban Areas
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Smokefree urban areas in NZ: Introduction

- Legislative context in New Zealand
  - Mandated Smokefree areas:
    - Schools and Early Childhood Centres (ECC)
    - Indoor areas of licensed premises and workplaces
- Role of local government in Smokefree outdoor areas
SFOA covered by current and future council policies - 2012

- Playgrounds
- Sports grounds
- Parks
- Council Events
- Entrance to council buildings
- Outdoor seating on pavements
- Beaches
- Entrance to public buildings
- Outdoor seating with license
- Pedestrian shopping mall

Current policy vs. Future policy
How far have we come?
Percentage of Councils with Smokefree Outdoor Area policies 2016

- 2008: 32% [23]
- 2012: 70% [47]
- 2016: 93% [63]
- 2025: ????
Smokefree Policies

Smoke-free Policy 2013

Policy Statement

SMOKEFREE DUNEDIN POLICY

The Dunedin City Council supports the goal of a smokefree/suhi kore Dunedin.

Smokefree measures will be implemented where practical and possible within existing budgets. When planning the Council’s activities consideration will be given to implementing the following measures:

- Promotion of the smokefree message and cessation support services at Council-owned playgrounds, parks, reserves, sports grounds and other public spaces.
- Promotion of the smokefree message and cessation support services at Council organised or supported events.
- Negotiating smokefree environments in service level agreements and leases.
- Inclusion of smokefree measures in healthy workplace programmes.

Compliance with smokefree measures will be voluntary and the Council’s support will not extend to enforcement, so as not to penalise smokers in the community.

Where appropriate the Council will work with the Smokefree Otago coalition and smoking cessation support services to work towards the goal of a smokefree Dunedin.

Adopted: 14 April 2014
Playgrounds

- Playgrounds are included in every smokefree outdoor policy in New Zealand

- Wide variety in terms of what this means:

  - “Promotion of the smokefree message and cessation support services at Council-owned playgrounds, parks, reserves, sports grounds and other public spaces.” Dunedin City Council

  - “The public will be asked to refrain from smoking in Council-owned playgrounds and parks (including sports parks). Signage, as appropriate, will be displayed at parks and by playgrounds.” Christchurch City Council
Parks and Sports Grounds

- 81% of council smokefree policies cover parks and 79% include sports grounds.

  “all playgrounds and skate-parks, all sports fields (including associated spectator areas), all regional and local parks and reserves” Auckland Council
Beaches

- Only two councils have beaches included in their smokefree policy
- Western Bay of Plenty:
  - “The public will be encouraged to refrain from smoking in the reserves, playgrounds, skate parks, sports fields, gardens, beaches, parks and Council owned enclosed spaces.”
- Gisborne
Additional Areas

- 68% of council smokefree policies cover additional areas.

- Smokefree housing policies

- Outdoor council facilities
Additional Areas

- Council service centres
  - E.g libraries, museums, bus stops
- Council events
  - “All events run by Horowhenua District Council will be smokefree, and any event supported or sponsored by Council will be encouraged to be smokefree”
- Outdoor areas of ECC and schools
Additional Areas

- Health precincts
- Smokefree streets
- Central commercial zone
- Smokefree city
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