

# RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL POLICY REGISTER

**Policy No:** 2.2.3

**Reference:** Public Health - Campaigns, Policy

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<b>POLICY:</b>	<b>SMOKE FREE OUTDOOR AREAS</b>
<b>FUNCTION:</b>	Regulatory Enforcement
<b>OBJECTIVE:</b>	To ensure outdoor smoke free areas are available to protect the community from second-hand smoke whilst at the same time promoting positive health messages and a cleaner, safer environment.
<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b>

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## POLICY

### STATEMENT

This Policy recognises that Council has an obligation to promote public health outcomes where Council provides assets and services intended to benefit children and other members of the community. This delegation also includes:

- A commitment to improve the natural environment and the amenity of the local area by reducing the amount of cigarette butt litter found in outdoor spaces;
- An understanding that the damaging effects of passive smoking while well documented in regard to indoor areas, is also beginning to emerge in regard to outdoor areas; and
- An acknowledgement that the indirect effects of people smoking in an outdoor area can result in children playing with and swallowing discarded cigarette butts; cigarette-derived particles accumulating on clothing and skin; and smoking causing sensory irritations such as eye watering, coughing, difficulty in breathing or asthma.

### AIM

That Council prohibit smoking in the following areas on Council land:

1. Within 10 metres of all children's playground equipment;
2. On all playing fields, sporting grounds and sporting facilities, (i.e. swimming pools);
3. In alfresco dining areas on public land;
4. Within 10 metres of public BBQ areas;
5. At all ocean and river beaches;
6. At all sporting fields, showgrounds, aerodromes;
7. At all bus stops and taxi ranks;
8. On all public footpaths within 70 metres of a licensed premises; and
9. Within 10 metres of Council owned or managed buildings including balconies or covered areas.

Signs will be installed in prominent places and include international non-smoking symbol and the wording "Warning - Heavy Penalty, Regulated under section 362 NSW Local Government Act 1993."

In implementing Council's Smoke Free Policy a program of community education and awareness, specifically targeting residents and day visitors, is to be undertaken.

Enforcement of this Policy will be supported by persuasion and self policing rather than punitive enforcement.

This Policy may also be read in conjunction with the following Richmond Valley Council Policies:

- Smoke Free Workplace; and
- Enforcement - Unlawful Activity.

### **RELATED REGULATIONS**

Section 632 *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

### **VARIATION**

Council reserves the right to review, vary and/or revoke this Policy from time to time.