

TITLE:	Smoke Free Policy		
DIVISION:			
ADOPTED BY:	Council		
DATE OF ADOPTION:	March 20, 2014	DATE OF REVIEW:	March 2018
MOTION NUMBER:	41/14		
POLICY NUMBER:	CP000032		
AUTHORISED:	Chief Executive Officer		

THIS POLICY APPLIES TO:

All employees of the Barkly Regional Council, Elected Members, customers, visitors and contractors. In addition the Council requires all contractors to behave in a way aligned with the principles of this policy.

PREAMBLE

The aim of all policy is for Councillors to provide strategic input into the effective operational framework of the organisation under S.11 of the Local Government Act

SUMMARY

This Policy establishes smoke-free areas on Council property with a view to improving the health of Council staff and members of the community.

OBJECTIVES

This Policy seeks to:

- Improve the health of community members;
- Improve public amenity and maintenance of Council property;
- Raise community awareness of the issues associated with smoking;
- Provide community leadership in taking measures to protect the health and social well being of the community;
- Minimise cigarette butt pollution on Council owned parks and other open space areas.

BACKGROUND

The Barkly Regional Council aims to build a healthy work environment which protects the health and wellbeing of all employers, employees and clients. The Council operates in a non-smoking environment.

This policy recognises that Council has:

- An obligation to promote public health outcomes where Council provides assets and services intended to be of benefit to children and other members of the community;
- 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.

POLICY STATEMENT

Barkly Regional Council adopts the following policy banning smoking on Council land:

1. Within ten (10) metres of all children's playground equipment;
2. On all playing fields, sporting grounds and sporting facilities (i.e. swimming pools, outdoor sports centres);
3. In all alfresco dining areas on public land;
4. Within ten (10) metres of Council owned or managed buildings including balconies or covered areas of those buildings;
5. On all Council controlled parks and reserves;
6. Within Council car parks;
7. On any leases, licences or other estates that apply to Council owned and managed lands and properties as that internationally recognised signage be erected to indicate that these areas are smoke-free; and
8. In all Council vehicles, plant and equipment.

Staff

While the Barkly Regional Council may make areas available to smokers, it in no way has any legal responsibility to do so. Employees who choose to use these areas do so at their own risk.

There will be no fixed smoke breaks for employees – smoking must not impact on the employee's performance.

Smokers and users of tobacco products must dispose of the remains in the provided containers.

Employees will be informed of where the designated smoking areas are upon commencement and/or the employee handbook.

Breaches of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

LEGISLATION, TERMINOLOGY AND REFERENCES

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IMPLEMENTATION AND DELEGATION

THE CEO is to have regard for this policy when identifying and evaluating opportunities for reducing smoking in the workplace and the community at large.

EVALUATION AND REVIEW

This Policy is to be reviewed every four (4) years, and may be reviewed at other times at the discretion of Chief Executive Officer.