



GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL Smoke-Free Outdoor Environment Policy

RESOLUTION NUMBER:	33.03/19	MEETING:	28 March 2019
	15.12/14		18 December 2014
	26.06/11		23 June 2011

INTRODUCTION

Council has a role in advocating better public health for residents. There is substantial evidence linking exposure to second-hand smoke with a range of serious and life threatening health impacts including heart disease, cancer, asthma, and other respiratory problems. Under provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Section 632 (1) and (2) (e), Councils are authorised to erect signage controlling smoking in designated outdoor areas, to protect the health and wellbeing of their communities from the effects of second-hand smoke.

AIMS OF POLICY

The objectives of Glen Innes Severn Council in controlling smoking in various Council areas are 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 wellbeing of the community; and
- Minimise cigarette butt pollution on Council owned waterways, parks and other open space areas.

POLICY STATEMENT

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 litter found in outdoor spaces;

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Related Documents: Smoke-Free Workplace Policy			

- An understanding that the damaging effects of passive smoking, while well documented in regard to indoor areas, are also beginning to emerge in regard to outdoor areas; and
- An understanding that the indirect effects of people smoking in an outdoor area can include:
 - children playing with and swallowing discarded cigarette butts;
 - cigarette derived particles accumulating on clothing and skin; and
 - sensory irritations such as eye watering, coughing, difficulty in breathing or asthma.

APPLICABILITY

The following Council open spaces will be signposted, where practicable, to provide smoke-free zones:

- All parts of Glen Innes CBD, specifically:
 - Grey Street from Lang Street to Ferguson Street;
 - Meade Street, Bourke Street and Wentworth Street from Church Street to East Avenue.


VARIATION AND REVIEW

Council shall review this policy in 2021. Council reserves the right to vary or revoke this policy at its discretion.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION

In implementing Council's Smoke Free Outdoor Policy a program of community education and awareness will be undertaken through Council's Facebook page and notices in the "Our Council" column in the Glen Innes Examiner. Enforcement of this policy will be by signage, positive persuasion and self-policing through the community, rather than punitive enforcement.

Suitable signage, in the form of recognised 'no smoking' signage to indicate that these areas are smoke-free, has been installed in prominent places in the open space areas listed above.



 General Manager

8-4-2019

 Date

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