

POLICY Smoke-Free Workplace



ADOPTED

COUNCIL MEETING MIN DATE: 275.24 20 DECEMBER 2024 VERSION NO VERSION 1.0 REVIEW DATE DECEMBER 2028 FILE NUMBER WHS119

Objective

The objective of this policy is to document Mid-Western Regional Councils (Councils) commitment to:

- Providing and maintaining a smoke and vapour free environment for the health and safety of workers, visitors and public members at Council workplaces.
- Providing support to workers who wish to cease smoking or vaping.
- Complying with the relevant legislative requirements.

Scope

This policy applies to all Council workers (including labour hire and temporary employees), work experience people, volunteers, contractors, elected members and visitors to Council workplaces and facilities.

The requirements within this policy apply to traditional nicotine cigarettes, e-cigarettes (also known as vapes) and any other type of cigarette that omits a smoke or vapour.

Legislative requirements

- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017
- Smoke-free Environment Act 2000
- Smoke-free Environment Regulation 2016

Related policies and plans

WHS105 Work Health and Safety Policy

Policy

Smoking is only permitted during designated breaks.

All materials used for smoking and vaping must be extinguished and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Smoke-free Areas

To protect all personnel within a Council workplace from the effects of passive smoke and vapour, smoking and vaping is not permitted:

- In any Council structure, including though not limited to;
 - o Buildings
 - o Containers, sheds or other storage areas
 - o Caravans, bathrooms, lunchrooms and changerooms
- At covered bus stops, taxi ranks and train stations.
- In any other enclosed public space. Enclosed in relation to public spaces means having a ceiling or roof and, except for doors and passageways, completely or substantially enclosed, whether temporary or permanent.
- In a vehicle or items of plant.
- Within 10 metres of a Council building, playground, sports field or facility, cemetery, swimming pool or area where a public event is being held.
- Within 10 metres of other workers.
- Within 4 metres of an entrance or exit point to a building.
- Adjacent to any entrances or exits into work areas, where passerby's may be exposed to passive smoke or vapours during the course of entering or exiting the area.
- Where there are 'No Smoking' or 'Naked Flame' signs displayed.
- Where 'smoke-free' areas have been identified.

Council Assistance

Council shall actively support and encourage workers wanting to cease smoking or vaping. Workers can access this support by contacting any member of the HR or WHS Team.

The Quitline can also assist 24/7 on 13 78 48.