

Smokefree & Vapefree Environments Policy



Approved by:	Council		
Sponsor:	Community & Strategy Group Manager		
Date approved:	19/05/2026		
Next review:	May 2029	Resolution:	2026/63

POLICY OVERVIEW

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To define and implement protocols for regulating smoking and vaping behaviour on areas, properties, facilities, and events owned/controlled by the Waimate District Council (WDC).

2.0 Scope

- 2.1 All WDC-owned/controlled areas, properties, and facilities, but excludes:
- a. Outdoor spaces of the WDC camping grounds.
- 2.2 WDC-organised events.

3.0 Principles

- 3.1 The application of the policy directly contributes to the enhancement of, primarily, the social and economic factors of community wellbeing.
- 3.2 The policy endorses, and is aligned with, the overall objective of the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Action Plan, namely the realisation of a smokefree New Zealand.
- 3.3 The policy constitutes an educational policy.

4.0 Definitions¹

- 4.1 For the purpose of the present policy, the following terms are defined as below:
- a. Smoking: to smoke, hold, or otherwise have control over an ignited tobacco product, weed, or plant [...] or thing whose customary use is, or includes, the inhalation from it of the smoke produced from its combustion or the combustion of any part of it.

¹ As defined by *Smokefree Environments & Regulated Products Act 1990*, Section 2. In all instances, the more comprehensive definitions outlined by the Act apply.

- b. Vaping: to inhale using a vaping device, or a heated tobacco product.
- c. Vaping device: a device that vaporises or aerosolises a substance or a mixture of substances by heating it for the purpose of inhalation through a mouthpiece.
- d. Tobacco product: any product manufactured from tobacco and intended for use by smoking, inhalation, or mastication.

POLICY

5.0 Prohibited Behaviour

- 5.1 Smoking and vaping are prohibited on all WDC-owned/controlled areas, properties, facilities, and events (as outlined in Section 6), excluding:
 - a. Outdoor spaces of the WDC camping grounds.

6.0 Smokefree & Vapefree Areas/Facilities/Properties

- 6.1 All WDC-owned/controlled parks and playgrounds, including but not limited to:
 - a. Victoria Park and Playground
 - b. Town Belt Playground
 - c. Wilkin Street Playground
 - d. Cameron Street Playground
 - e. Boland Park (including Skate-park and Playground)
 - f. Seddon Square
 - g. Knottingley Park and Arboretum (including Playground)
- 6.2 All WDC-owned/controlled buildings and properties, including but not limited to:
 - a. Rural halls
 - b. Community housing units
 - c. Public toilets
 - d. Waimate Event Centre
- 6.3 All WDC-owned/controlled sport grounds, including but not limited to:
 - a. Knottingley Park and Arboretum- Cricket Oval
 - b. Saint Andrews Domain- Oval
 - c. Victoria Park- Netball Courts and Oval
 - d. Manchester Park- Rugby Fields
 - e. Waimate Swimming Pool Complex
 - f. Glenavy Domain
- 6.4 All WDC-owned/controlled walkways and cycleways, and
- 6.5 All WDC-organised events.

7.0 Signage

- 7.1 Appropriate signage, if required or requested by Council on behalf of the public, advising of smokefree and vape-free designation of an area/facility/property must be installed to inform the public accordingly.

8.0 Associated Documents

- 8.1 Health Act 1956
- 8.2 Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990
- 8.3 Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Action Plan