

WAIRARAPA COMBINED SMOKE AND VAPE FREE POLICY



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POLICY NUMBERS	
Masterton District Council: MDC021	
Carterton District Council:	
South Wairarapa District Council: SWDC PI-AMS-001	
First Adopted	April 2023
Latest Version	April 2023
Adopted by	Council (29 March (CDC) and 5 April (SWDC and MDC))
Review Date	April 2026

Purpose

This Policy aims to encourage smokefree and vapefree public environments in Wairarapa and minimise the exposure that all our community, in particular our children, young people, and those with chronic health conditions, have to smoking and vaping.

Introduction

We support the Government's Smokefree Target

The Masterton, Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils (the Wairarapa District Councils) are committed to supporting a smokefree region by 2025. Achieving this goal will contribute to achieving the national goal for Aotearoa to be smokefree by 2025¹.

We made our smokefree commitment so Wairarapa communities can enjoy a healthy, clean environment and public spaces without exposure to tobacco smoke and cigarette litter. By supporting our communities to become smokefree we can help them to lead healthier lives.

Vaping in our community

The Wairarapa District Councils acknowledge that evidence on vaping as an effective smoking quit tool is emerging. The Wairarapa District Councils do not promote vaping to young people or non-smokers. This Policy emphasises modelling positive behaviour for children and young people and encourages people to refrain from vaping in smokefree areas.

Scope

This Policy covers the Wairarapa District Councils' position in relation to:

- smokefree and vapefree public places, and
- smokefree and vapefree public events.

This Policy applies to both tobacco products and vaping products (with or without nicotine, including e-cigarettes and similar devices).

This Policy focuses on where people are requested not to smoke or vape. Whether people choose to become smokefree or vapefree is outside the scope of this Policy (assistance to become smokefree or vapefree is offered through health agencies).

Approach

This Policy follows a non-regulatory approach aimed at behaviour change and promoting a positive smoke and vape free message through education. Compliance with the Policy is voluntary and is not enforced by the Wairarapa District Councils (other than signage and relevant contractual arrangements).

¹ Government's Smokefree goal is that by 2025 less than five percent of New Zealanders will be smokers. This was established in March 2011 in response to the recommendations of a landmark Parliamentary inquiry by the Māori Affairs select committee.

Objectives

This Policy aims to:

- Contribute to improving the health of the community by reducing the prevalence of smoking and the impacts of second-hand smoke.
- Foster a positive smoke and vape free message, with an emphasis on modelling positive behaviour for children and young people.
- Improve awareness and promotion of smoke and vape free spaces in the Wairarapa region.
- Provide Council leadership that advocates for a smoke and vape free region.

Our Smoke and Vape free areas

By focusing on public outdoor areas and council supported events, the Wairarapa District Councils will be proactive and demonstrate leadership by promoting a smoke and vape free environment as being both desirable and the norm in the Wairarapa region.

The Wairarapa District Councils have designated the following public places as both smoke and vape free across the whole of the Wairarapa region:

- Town Centres or other large scale retail areas as identified by councils identified in Schedule 1
- Council owned or managed open spaces, including:
 - Parks and Reserves
 - Cemeteries
 - Playgrounds
 - Skateparks
 - Sports fields, grounds, pools, or courts
- Public transport stops and shelters
- Public toilets
- Seating in public areas
- Entrances outside and outdoor areas of all Council owned and operated buildings/ facilities such as: event centres, town halls and libraries
- Council owned or managed public car parks
- All early childhood centres, kōhanga reo, primary, kura kaupapa and secondary schools including all associated public outdoor areas and the footpath directly in front of the property boundary.

We encourage all outdoor dining areas on public footpaths across the Wairarapa Region to be smoke and vape free. Businesses are encouraged to sign up to the “The Fresh Air Project”² to promote and support their smoke and vape free status.

Greater Wellington Regional Council also encourages smoke and vape free environments in their parks and at shared facilities³.

² See <https://freshairproject.org.nz/> supported by the Cancer Society Wairarapa

³ See Greater Wellington Regional Council’s Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan Part 4 (May 2021) for further information.

Events

Wairarapa District Councils recognise the role that public/community events can play in promoting a positive smoke and vape free message. Under this Policy, events are defined as:

- events held at any of Councils' smokefree and vapefree public places,
- events hosted by Council, or public events receiving Council funding.

Events (as defined above) will be required to support smokefree and vapefree messages in advertising and at the event.

Implementation: working with our community to achieve the 2025 target

An implementation plan will support this policy and be reviewed on an annual basis. The plan identifies the ways the Wairarapa District Councils will:

- partner with key organisations and groups to promote Wairarapa as a smoke and vape free region, focussing on the benefits of encouraging people to be smoke and vape free,
- promote awareness of Wairarapa's smokefree and vapefree outdoor public spaces and events, to residents and visitors,
- promote smoke and vape free town centres, and
- support events to be smoke and vape free through the provision of signage.

Policy Monitoring and Review

This Policy will be reviewed by the Wairarapa District Councils every three years, following its adoption, or as determined by Council or in response to legislative or policy changes as appropriate.

Masterton, Carterton or South Wairarapa District Council may by resolution publicly notified:

- a) add schedules;
- b) make additions or deletions from the schedules; or
- c) substitute new schedules.

Where Masterton, Carterton or South Wairarapa District Council intend to make a resolution (as stated above), consultation will be undertaken as required under our respective Significance and Engagement Policies.

After making a resolution (as stated above) the Wairarapa District Councils shall record the matter in the Policy schedules and publish the updated version of the Policy. The following measures of success will be used as the basis of any review of the Policy:

Measure	Possible Methods:
The number of actively promoted smokefree and vapefree areas in the Wairarapa increases	Survey of businesses, organisations, and facilities.
Awareness of, and public support for the policy increases	Community Survey.
The population rate of smoking and vaping decreases.	Census data, Te Whatu Ora and Ministry of Health information.
Increase in the number of smoke and vape free outdoor dining areas within the district	Fresh Air Project sign ups. Observational study.

Definitions

Vaping or to vape is defined as the use of an electronic cigarette or e-cigarette that heats a solution producing a vapour that the user inhales or 'vapes' (Ministry of Health, 2017).

Relevant Legislation

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) states that one of the purposes of councils is to promote the social, economic, environment and cultural well-being of communities, in the present and for the future. Section 11 of LGA 2002 provides that the role of councils is to give effect to their purpose and perform the duties and exercise the rights conferred on them by, or under, LGA 2002. Section 23 of the Health Act 1956 also states that it is the duty of every council to improve, promote and protect public health within its district.

The Policy is aligned to the intent and direction of the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Action Plan - Auahi Kore Aotearoa Mahere Rautaki 2025 (Manatū Hauora - Ministry of Health, 2021).

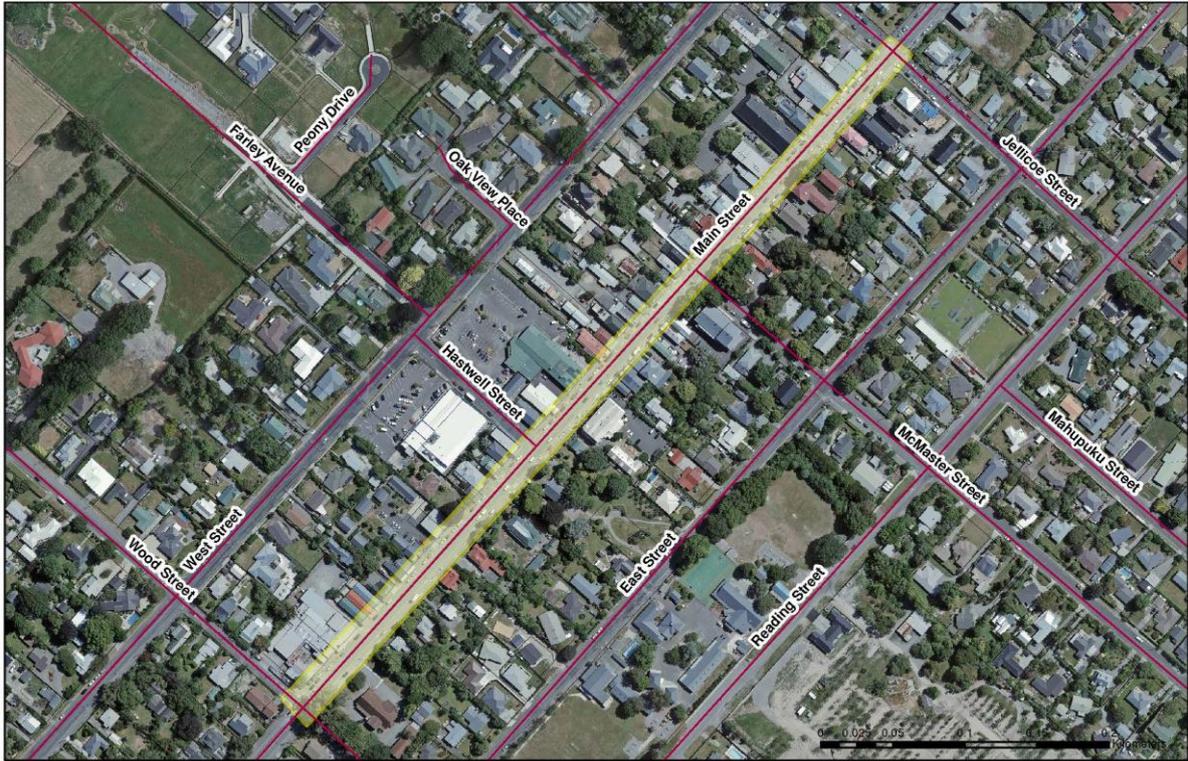
Schedule 1: Maps of Smoke and Vape Free Areas in Town Centres or other large-scale retail areas



		<p>Masterton District Smokefree and Vapefree Areas</p>	<p><small>© 2022 CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. THIS MAP IS PROVIDED AS A SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND IS NOT A PROFESSIONAL SURVEY. THE COUNCIL DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. THE INFORMATION IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. THE COUNCIL DOES NOT PROVIDE INTERPRETATION OF THIS INFORMATION OR ADVICE AS TO HOW TO INTERPRET OR UTILISE THIS INFORMATION. YOUR OWN INDEPENDENT AND APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL ADVICE SHOULD BE SOUGHT. THE INFORMATION DISPLAYED ON THIS MAP CONTAINS ERRORS OR OMISSIONS OR MAY NOT HAVE THE SPATIAL ACCURACY REQUIRED FOR SOME PURPOSES.</small></p>	<p>Scale = 1:7,500 Date - 14/03/2023</p>
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	<p>Carterton District Smokefree and Vapefree Areas</p>	<p><small>DISCLAIMER: Carterton District Council accept no responsibility for actions or projects undertaken or loss or damages incurred, by any individuals or company, or agency, using all or any of the information presented on this map. The Councils do not provide interpretation of this information or advice as to how to interpret or utilise this information. Your own independent and appropriate professional advice should be sought. The information displayed on this map contains errors or omissions or may not have the spatial accuracy required for some purposes.</small></p>	<p>Scale = 1:5,000 Date - March 2023</p>
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Greytown Smokefree and Vapefree Areas

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Featherston Smokefree and Vapefree Areas

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SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
 Kia Bereketi Tātau


Martinborough Smokefree and Vapefree Areas

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