

From: [Official Information](#)
To: S 7(2)(a)
Cc: [Official Information](#)
Subject: Final response - LGOIMA 348100 S 7(2)(a) - information about Smoking and Vaping policy
Date: Monday, 2 October 2023 8:40:13 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Kia ora,

We refer to your information request below. Hamilton City Council provides the following response.

Your request:

We hope this email finds you well. We are students from Hamilton Girls High School, currently studying Level 3 Social Studies. As part of our coursework, we are conducting a research project to evaluate the implementation of the Smoking and Vaping policy in Hamilton CBD.

We are eager to assess how well the Hamilton City Council has been executing the policy and its impact on the community. In this regard, we have a few questions that we would greatly appreciate your assistance with:

- 1. Where have you placed appropriate signage around Hamilton CBD, detailing the areas where Smoking and Vaping are prohibited?*
- 2. What does the term 'wherever practicable' mean in the context of the signage's placement? Could you provide some examples of situations where it might not be considered practicable?*
- 3. Could you please share information about any collaborative action plans that have already been initiated, as stated in the policy. We are particularly interested in understanding the council's efforts to work with other stakeholders in implementing and enforcing the policy effectively.*

We believe that your insights will be invaluable to our research project, and we are thankful for your time and attention in providing us with the requested information.

If it is more convenient for you, we are open to arranging a meeting or phone call to discuss these questions in further detail. Our goal is to gain an understanding of the policy and its impact on the community.

Our response:

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1. Where have you placed appropriate signage around Hamilton CBD, detailing the areas where Smoking and Vaping are prohibited?

Hamilton City Council does not keep a register of all signage within the CBD. Therefore, cannot provide specific detail of the locations of the various smokefree and vape-free signage. However, in general, Council creates signage for a number of different purposes – some examples are entrance signage, map / information boards, wayfinding, and compliance.

Most of our signs are informing people of prohibited areas these are 'compliance signs'. Compliance signs exclusively refer to rules at a certain location (like No Smoking and Vaping). In the CBD, these are mostly found at our facilities (e.g., Municipal Building, Transport Depot), at various places in Garden Place, and playgrounds. We can use other signs to expand our communication to the community about the CBD locations where smoking and vaping are prohibited. For example, entrance signs to our parks include the No Smoking symbol.

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2. What does the term 'wherever practicable' mean in the context of the signage's placement? Could you provide some examples of situations where it might not be considered practicable?

When we find it 'practicable' we think of a few factors, but appropriate location is the most common – We may take into account available areas to attach the signage, visibility, or maintenance.

A number of the rules in the policy refer to a perimeter of space as a restricted zone, e.g., *On or within ten (10) metres of Council owned or operated buildings and facilities*. In such cases, it would not be 'practicable' to set signs at regular intervals where this perimeter begins and therefore signs are more commonly placed on the building concerned.

Parks are also likely to place signage at locations where other structures already exists, like the main entrances or on the playgrounds. Placing the signs elsewhere may mean they're not clearly visible or may cause difficulty for the parks' maintenance (like having to mow around a sign). The enforcement of this policy is mainly having visible signage to educate the public, signage is key to these outcomes however other means can support to educate the community – for example, the presence of our City Safe Officers who remind people of the restricted areas.

3. Could you please share information about any collaborative action plans that have already been initiated, as stated in the policy? We are particularly interested in understanding the council's efforts to work with other stakeholders in implementing and enforcing the policy effectively.

Collaborative Smokefree action plan attached.

Ngaa mihi

Keeley Faulkner

Official Information Coordinator

Governance & Assurance Team | Business Services

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I support flexibility at work. While it suits me to send this email now, I don't expect a response outside of your own working hours.

-----Original Message-----

From: S 7(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 6 September 2023 1:12:57 pm

To: info@hcc.govt.nz

Subject: Inquiry about the Smoking and Vaping Policy Implementation in Hamilton CBD

Inquiry about the Smoking and Vaping Policy Implementation in Hamilton CBD

Dear Hamilton City Council,

We hope this email finds you well. We are students from Hamilton Girls High School, currently studying Level 3 Social Studies. As part of our coursework, we are conducting a research project to evaluate the implementation of the Smoking and Vaping policy in Hamilton CBD.

We are eager to assess how well the Hamilton City Council has been executing the policy and its impact on the community. In this regard, we have a few questions that we would greatly appreciate your assistance with:

- 1.
- 2.
3. Where have you placed appropriate
4. signage around Hamilton CBD, detailing the areas where Smoking and Vaping are prohibited?
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
8. What does the term 'wherever
9. practicable' mean in the context of the signage's placement? Could you provide some examples of situations where it might not be considered practicable?
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
13. Could you please share

14. information about any collaborative action plans that have already been initiated, as stated in the policy? We are particularly interested in understanding the council's efforts to work with other stakeholders in implementing and enforcing the policy effectively.

15.

We believe that your insights will be invaluable to our research project, and we are thankful for your time and attention in providing us with the requested information.

If it is more convenient for you, we are open to arranging a meeting or phone call to discuss these questions in further detail. Our goal is to gain an understanding of the policy and its impact on the community.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

S 7(2)(a)