

Smoke free grounds



Smoke free grounds policy - How this will affect you

Information for visitors and patients

Q. Where/what is included in smoke free grounds?

- All buildings – for example, offices, hospitals, health centres, cabins. It is against the law to smoke inside any hospital building.
- All vehicles – for example, privately owned cars, light and heavy goods vehicles.
- All grounds – for example, gardens, walkways and car parks.

Q. Who does the policy apply to?

- Everyone who comes onto NHS grounds.

Q. I am coming in for a procedure and I smoke. How will I be able to cope if I can't have a cigarette?

- Every inpatient will be asked about their smoking status by ward staff. If you

are a smoker please tell us, and we will arrange for a smoking advisor to visit you. They will be able to prescribe you Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) to help manage your smoking while you are in hospital.

Q. Can I smoke in my car?

- No-one will be permitted to smoke in any vehicle while these vehicles are on NHS grounds.

Q. Can I smoke during visiting times?

- Smoking during visiting hours is only permitted if the patient is suitably dressed and are not on NHS grounds.

Q. Are there any exemptions?

- Patients who are in Care of the elderly, Continuing care and Mental Health wards are exempt from this policy.



Q. What is the ruling on e-cigarettes?

- e-cigarettes should be treated in exactly the same way as any other form of smoking - they are not permitted to be smoked in NHS buildings or grounds. This aspect of the policy regarding e-cigarettes will need to be routinely updated, as any changes of the regulation of e-cigarettes occurs.
- Visitors and patients who breach the policy will be respectfully reminded about the importance of complying with the policy and will be guided to non-NHS grounds where they are permitted to smoke. If you would like any information or assistance to manage your smoking, please contact Fresh Air-shire on 0800 783 9132.

Q. Who will enforce this policy?

There are no plans to employ staff to enforce this policy, and it is not

the role of security or portering staff to do so. Engagement on the policy resulted in overwhelming views that staff and the public did not wish to divert funding from patient care into policing this policy. Staff will have information which will allow them to raise the issue with those who are not complying with the policy and guide them to where they can smoke outside our grounds.

The Scottish Government has recently been consulting on tobacco control issues, including legislation about smoking on NHS grounds. We may, therefore, see legislation about smoking on NHS grounds in the near future. Until then, we will continue to pursue an environment which is health promoting and free from the harmful effects of second hand smoke.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Fresh Air-shire on 0800 783 9132.



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