

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Reserves Manager  
**DATE:** 14 November 2008  
**SUBJECT:** Smoke Free Policy for Open Space Reserves

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## PURPOSE

To ask the Committee to support the initiative of a smoke-free policy for Tasman District Council's sports fields, playgrounds and other open space reserves as requested by the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board.

## BACKGROUND

In October, Brenda Knowles and Miraka Norgate, Health Promoters from the DHB, met with Mayor Kempthorne and requested that Council support the initiative of making Council's playgrounds, sports fields and other open space reserves smoke free. The Mayor suggested that Brenda and Miraka attend a Community Services Committee meeting to present this initiative to Councillors.

## COMMENT/DISCUSSION

Council has had requests from a sports club at Jubilee Park asking for the area to be smoke free and the Saxton Field Management Plan has a smoke free policy for the fields.

Several Councils eg Kapiti Coast, Wairoa, Queenstown Lakes, Upper Hutt, Opotiki, Manukau and Wanganui Councils are already promoting smoke free reserves.

The policy for these Councils has been to focus on educational aspects of non smoking rather than any enforcement and have a simple policy statement eg

*"That all Council Sportsgrounds, Playgrounds, and Open Space Reserves be deemed and promoted as Smoke Free areas. That the public; be encouraged through signage and publicity to maintain a clean, healthy environment in areas that are primarily used by young people for sporting and recreation activity.*

*That Council appeal using signage and publicity to gain positive environmental health benefits and seek compliance from the public as opposed to enforcement. To this end the policy will be educational as opposed to penal in seeking compliance."*

Supporting this initiative would require community consultation and funding to be put into the LTCCP for publicity and signage.

## **SIGNIFICANCE**

This is not significant under Council's significance policy.

## **AFFECTED PARTIES**

The general public particularly users of Council's sports fields, playgrounds and other open space reserves.

## **OPTIONS**

- 1 The Community Services Committee receive this information.
- 2 Not to support the DHB initiative.
- 3 Support the DHB initiative and request that staff allocate funding in the LTCCP and subject to funding being allocated proceed with this project.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Community Services Committee support the DHB initiative of smoke free sports fields, playgrounds and open space reserves and request that staff allocate funding in the LTCCP and subject to funding being allocated proceed with this project.

**Beryl Wilkes**  
**Reserves Manager**

<http://tdctoday:82/shared documents/meetings/council/committees and subcommittees/community services committee/reports/2008/rcs081204 report smoke free policy.doc>