

NO SMOKING POLICY

Policy

It is the Company's policy that all of its workplaces are smoke-free and that all employees have a right to work in a smoke-free environment and not be exposed to second-hand smoke. This is also a statutory requirement. As such, the Company's business premises are no smoking premises and smoking is prohibited in all areas of the workplace at all times with no exceptions. This includes company vehicles used by more than one person, even if they are used at different times.

Smoking for these purposes includes the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes (or e-cigarettes) and any other type of smoking.

The Company's policy on smoking applies not only to employees but also to visitors to the workplace, including clients, customers, contractors, suppliers and members of the public.

Appropriate 'No Smoking' signs are clearly displayed at the entrances to and within the workplace.

When working on behalf of the Company, all employees and contractors are prohibited from smoking within any client or customer premises, or within any place where 'No Smoking' signs are displayed.

If you wish to smoke, you must do this in your own time either outside your normal hours of work or during designated breaks, such as your lunch break. You are not permitted to take additional smoking breaks during the day.

Smoking areas

The Company wishes to portray a professional business image to its clients, customers and suppliers when they visit the Company's business premises. Therefore, employees are not permitted to smoke immediately outside the entrance to or exit from the workplace.

Implementation

The centre manager and directors are responsible for the implementation of and compliance with this policy and a copy will be provided to all staff. All employees are required to adhere to, and facilitate the implementation of, this policy. Anyone who wishes to report an incident of smoking in the workplace should therefore speak to the centre manager or directors.

Non-compliance

Employees who are found to be smoking in the workplace in contravention of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Company's disciplinary procedure. A breach of this policy will be treated as a serious disciplinary offence. Where the smoking constituted a health and safety hazard, then such behaviour will be treated as potential gross misconduct and could render the employee liable to summary dismissal.

If a client, customer, contractor or supplier does not comply with this policy, they will be warned that they are committing an offence, requested to immediately refrain from smoking and, if they refuse, they will be asked to leave (or will be ejected from) the premises.

Those who do not comply with the smoking ban are also liable to a fixed penalty fine and possible criminal prosecution and they expose the Company to similar action.

