

Smoke Free Policy

Introduction

Public health introduced smoke free legislation on 1st July 2007 making it virtually all workplaces and enclosed public areas in England smoke free areas by law. The legislation is not primarily about stopping people from smoking but is rather to do with making all shared spaces smoke free.

Life In Action, hereafter referred to as the organisation, has a duty of care to provide all staff, volunteers, clients and visitors, hereafter referred to as members, to a smoke free work environment that is free from exposure to second hand smoke which increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other serious illnesses and therefore has a non-smoking and non-vaping policy.

It is the policy of the organisation, that smoking is not permitted in any part of the clinics premises or in the areas that have been designated as smoke free external to the building.

Definitions of smoking

Smoking is defined as being in possession of a lit substance such as tobacco or any other substance that can be smoked for example, cigarettes, pipes and water pipes. This includes the use of electronic cigarettes and vapour pipes which are prohibited in the same way as smoking. All this being said we do recognise the difficulty of quitting smoking as we know this is an addiction and therefore know it is a useful aid to quitting smoking however, we remain of the view that these are still potentially dangerous and can be unpleasant for those around the smoke and vapor that create.

Smoke free designated areas

- Inside the clinic itself including offices and therapy rooms
- Externally in the outdoor areas within 20 feet of the front and rear entrances
- Externally in the outdoors areas within 20 feet of the clinics open windows in the rear gardens

Smoking requirements

Members or required to discard cigarettes in a clean and responsible way and in an appropriate container. The smoking area has a sand bin that is to be used for the disposal of cigarette ends.

Responsibilities of staff

The organisation takes the implementation of the smoke free policy seriously and as such is both responsible and committed to carrying out the actions listed in this policy. Staff and volunteers are always required to support and implement the policy. This may include asking staff who are not adhering to the policy to leave the premises right away. This must then be reported to the Clinic Director.

Note:

Any staff who fail to comply with the smoke free workplace legislation could face disciplinary action as well as any sanctions that may be applicable under criminal law.

Help to stop smoking

As a clinic that supports health and wellbeing, we understand the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and share details of the services the NHS offer free of charge to stop and give up. You can see this information on the NHS gosmokefree.co.uk website or by talking to your GP.