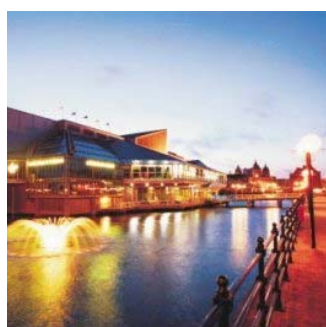


'Smokefree' Hull?

FACTSHEET 6

April 2006



OUTLINE OF MAIN POINTS

Following the recent vote by the House of Commons it is anticipated that as of June 2007 all public places, including work places, will be smoke free.

There will be major implications for:

- **Employers**, in terms of their workplace practices.
- The **evening economy**, in terms of the impact on pubs and clubs.
- **Public health**, in terms of the potential benefits of a healthier population.

SMOKING IN HULL

- Around 40% of people in Hull smoke compared to 26% nationally.
- The figures in Hull are the highest in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- The figure for early deaths as a result of cancer and coronary heart disease is also significantly higher than the national average.
- A target to reduce smoking by 14% is to be achieved by 2010 in response to Department of Health priorities.
- Hull City Council will be prohibiting smoking in the workplace, which will apply to employees, elected members, users and visitors to Council buildings and in Council vehicles from September 1st 2006.

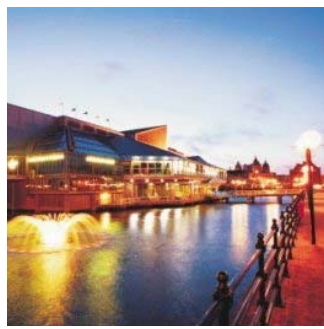
The implications of the proposed ban are relevant whatever the nature of your business, and there are some big issues for Hull. The Quarterly Forum in April 2006 will cover;

- The current position with regards to legislation and timetable.
- The rationale for a ban from a public health perspective in Hull.
- The issues for smoking in the workplace and how employers can deal with it.
- The impact on the evening economy.
- The support available to businesses and their staff in terms of information and smoking cessation programmes etc.

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RELEVANCE TO THE BUSINESS FORUM AND ITS MEMBERS

There are wider implications for businesses other than the effect on bars and restaurants, important as these are. For example:

- Employers lose time by smokers having extra breaks.
- Employers lose productivity by time off through smoking related illness and taking smoking breaks.
- In order to encourage employers to work with their staff to encourage giving up smoking, there needs to be a suitable (possibly subsidised) support package available.

BUSINESS FACTS

Smokefree Liverpool has been lobbying in recent years to make Liverpool a smoking free city, and it has argued that:

- 1) A recent Office of National Statistics survey revealed 86% of people thought there should be restrictions on smoking at work while 88% wanted smoking banned in restaurants.
- 2) A report published in the TUC-backed Hazards Magazine analysed the impact of smoking bans in the hospitality industry from 97 studies in eight countries. They found no negative impact on business.
- 3) In New York, where a ban on smoking in public places was introduced in March 2003, recent revenue reports have posted a 12% increase in trade in the hospitality industry and a separate independent study found 10,000 new jobs have been created in the city's bars and restaurants.
- 4) Research by urban consultant Jon Dawson found that smoking costs Liverpool businesses an estimated £28.5m a year in lost productivity and absenteeism.
- 5) Up to 100 non-smokers in Liverpool die every year from smoking related diseases with bar staff and hospitality workers considered high risk because of their prolonged exposure to second hand tobacco smoke.

The USA, Australia, Finland, Norway and Canada are just a few of the countries where public places are smoke free, and the global move continues to gather momentum. Ireland became smoke free in March 2004, and Scotland followed earlier this year.

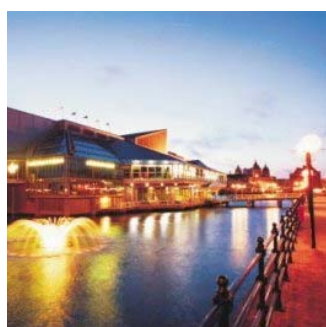
The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce supported Smokefree Liverpool and estimated that their local businesses lost £28.5 million per year through smoking issues.



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USEFUL LINKS

<http://www.healthpromotionservice.co.uk/>

<http://www.givingupsmoking.co.uk/>

<http://www.cleanairaward.org.uk/>

<http://www.ash.org.uk>

<http://www.prodigy.nhs.uk/ProdigyKnowledge/Guidance/GuidanceView.aspx?GuidanceId=56293>

<http://www.non-smoking.org/>

<http://www.smokefreeliverpool.com/>

Hull and East Riding Specialist Smoking Cessation Service

Area: Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Referral Method: Self, GP, Primary Care Professional, Hospital Staff, Teacher, Youth Worker, Pharmacist, etc. Anyone who would like to attend a Smoking Cessation Programme or receive information, should contact the Smoking Cessation Service via the Free Phone Number 0800 915 5959.

Times Helpline Phonenumber available 24 hours.

Times Sessions Sessions held Monday to Saturday - mornings, afternoons and evenings.

Service: 6-week stop smoking programme for groups or one-to-one in a variety of settings across the area. Telephone support. Drop-in clinics.

Other services: Supports and facilitates groups in workplaces, prisons, etc. Has a young people's support network called 'Chuck It', which allows young people to contact the service via email, and be supported in their quit attempt by a support worker.

Address: Specialist Health Promotion Service,
Victoria House,
Park Street,
Kingston upon Hull,
East Riding of Yorkshire,
HU2 8TD

Helpline: 0800 915 5959

Fax Number: 01482 617869

Hull Business Forum has a draft company policy on smoking issues. If you would like a copy, please contact:

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