

## Giving up Smoking?

For help and advice on how to give up smoking you can call the FREE NHS All Wales Smoking Cessation Service on

**0800 085 2219**

This freephone helpline offers:

- One to one confidential advice from specially trained counsellors
- Guidance on stopping smoking and help with associated problems
- Information leaflets on how to get started, planning and preparing to quit smoking
- Guidance on accessing support from local smoking cessation services

More information can be found online at

[www.smokingbanwales.co.uk](http://www.smokingbanwales.co.uk)

&

[www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)



For more information please contact us

at

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**Plan for the Ban**



## A Brief Guide to the Smoking Ban



*a better place to live and work  
lle gwell i fyw a gweithio*

Environment Directorate  
Public Protection Division

From 2nd April 2007 smoking will be banned in all enclosed or substantially enclosed public places and workplaces in Wales.

The ban is intended to protect workers and the public from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.

The law creates three specific offences.

- Failing to display no-smoking signs in premises covered by the law;
- Smoking in a smoke-free place;
- Failing to prevent smoking in a smoke-free place.

### What are the penalties for those who break the law?

- Individuals may be issued with a £50 fixed penalty for smoking in no-smoking premises. They may also face prosecution.
- The manager or person in control of any no-smoking premises could be issued with a fixed penalty of £200 for failing to display warning notices in no-smoking premises. They may also face prosecution.
- The manager or person in control of any no smoking premises could be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £2,500 for allowing others to smoke in no-smoking premises.



### The Facts

- Smokers can still smoke if they want to - it is just they will be restricted to private residences, private vehicles and open public spaces.
- In Wales all enclosed or substantially enclosed public places are covered by the ban. There are very few exceptions. The common myths, such as if you serve food you are exempt and private members clubs are exempt ARE NOT TRUE!
- Increasing ventilation in premises does not work. You cannot comply with the law by increasing ventilation. High quality ventilation will move air around and remove the smell but it does not remove the carcinogens that will continue to circulate.
- The ban on smoking does not breach the human rights of the smoker. It is legitimate to limit such things in the interests of the greater good – in this case the health of the general public.



In Wales, it is estimated that there will be 253 fewer deaths each year from lung cancer and coronary heart disease because of the reduction in exposure to second hand smoke.

### What should you do next?

Early preparation is the key to ensuring that your business is ready for the introduction of the ban.

It is important that all your staff are aware of the requirements of the new law. The law is written in such a way that it is the responsibility of the person who controls or is concerned with the management of a premises to ensure that no one smokes. It is not just the responsibility of the owner or manager to ensure no one smokes. The requirement is also placed upon such people as bar staff, shop assistants and shift managers.

Eight bar workers every year die because of diseases caused by second hand smoke.

Evidence from Scotland and Ireland (where the smoking ban is already in place) suggests that there has been overwhelming compliance by members of the public with the smoking ban.

It is estimated that businesses in Wales will save £45 million per year because of the decrease in sickness absence due to second hand smoke