

From **6.00am on Sunday 1 July 2007**, it will be against the law for people to smoke in almost all work or public places that are enclosed, or substantially enclosed, e.g. shops, offices, work-shops, factories, restaurants, pubs and bars. The smoking ban will also apply to public transport and to any work vehicle that may be used by more than one person.

What does 'enclosed' or 'substantially enclosed' mean?

Somewhere is **enclosed** if it has a ceiling or roof and, except for any windows and doors, has walls or sides that enclose it. A **substantially enclosed** place is one that has a ceiling or roof, and has walls or sides that enclose more than 50% of it.

Do businesses have to provide a shelter for smokers?

Businesses do not have to provide a shelter, but they might want to have one for their staff or customers to use. A free guidance leaflet on smoking shelters has been produced by the Council and is available on request.

What will the smoke-free legislation require businesses and employers to do?

From 1 July 2007 they must:

- Ensure that people do not smoke in those parts of their premises or in vehicles that by law have to be smoke-free.
- Prominently display 'no-smoking' signs at the entrances to their premises and in vehicles. Free no-smoking signs will be available from the Department of Health nearer 1 July.

What are the penalties for non-compliance?

The requirements of the smoke-free laws will be enforced by Authorised Officers of the Council. The offences and proposed penalties are:

- Smoking in a smoke-free place or vehicle - a fixed penalty notice of £50 or a fine of up to £200
- Failure to display appropriate signs – a fixed penalty notice of £200 or a fine of up to £1000
- Failing to prevent smoking in a smoke-free place or vehicle – a fine of up to £2,500

Getting ready for 1 July

It may be helpful to use the following questions to identify what needs to be done before 1 July:

- Do you, your staff or any of your customers smoke? If the answer is yes, where will these people go to smoke?
- If there is to be a smoking shelter, will it comply with the law?
- How will you respond to staff or members of the public who break the law by smoking in premises or vehicles that have to be smoke-free?

Where can businesses and employers get advice?

For the latest Smoke-free information from the Council visit our website at: www.breckland.gov.uk.

E-mail your enquiries to: healthandsafety@breckland.gov.uk

To speak to an officer, or to arrange an advisory visit telephone: 01362 656870.

Log onto the Smoke-Free England website at www.smokefreeengland.co.uk for information about going smoke-free or telephone 0800 1691697.