



Hamilton City Council – Staff Submission

**Smokefree Environments
and Regulated Products
Amendment Bill (No 2)**
Parliament's Health Committee

3 October 2024



**Hamilton
City Council**
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa



Improving the Wellbeing of Hamiltonians

Hamilton City Council is focused on improving the wellbeing of Hamiltonians through delivering to our five priorities of shaping:

- **A city that's easy to live in**
- **A city where our people thrive**
- **A central city where our people love to be**
- **A fun city with lots to do**
- **A green city**

The topic of this staff submission is aligned to all of Hamilton City Council's five priorities.

Council Approval and Reference

This staff submission was approved by Hamilton City Council's Chief Executive on 3 October 2024.

Submission # 775

It should be noted that the following submission is from staff at Hamilton City Council and does not therefore necessarily represent the views of the Council itself.

Introduction

1. Hamilton City Council staff welcome the opportunity to make a submission to Parliament's Health Committee on the **Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill (No 2)**.
2. The points outlined in this submission are reflective of and build on the key points in the submission made by Hamilton City Council staff to the Ministry of Health's **Proposals for the Smoked Tobacco Regulatory Regime (January 2023 Consultation Document)** on 22 March 2023 – [refer here](#)
3. The Smokefree and Vapefree Outdoor Areas Policy ([refer here](#)) sets Hamilton City Council's policy to provide community leadership in supporting the national goal of New Zealand to become a Smokefree nation by 2025.
4. Overall, we support the intentions of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill (No 2) to prevent youth vaping.

Key Messages and Recommendations

5. Support for the Bill

6. Overall, we support the intentions of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Bill (No 2) to prevent youth vaping.

7. Disposable Vaping Products

8. We are concerned that vaping prevalence continues to rise among young people, including those who have never previously smoked.
9. We support the intent to make regulatory changes to reduce access to the vaping products most commonly used by young people.
10. We note the positive environmental impacts of banning single-use products.
11. We would like clarity about the potential impacts of banning single-use containers for people attempting to quit tobacco smoking as referred to in page 16 of the Supplementary Regulatory Impact Statement.
12. We would advocate for appropriate timing for implementation of any eventual banned products to ensure retailers have time to action the changes effectively and safely.

13. Increase to Penalties for Sales to Under-18s

14. We support the intent to make regulatory changes to greater deter the illegal sale of regulated products to under-18s.

15. Retail Visibility Restrictions – Including Location of Premises

16. We note that the number of Specialist Vape Providers (SVPs) is increasing, and that the restriction on visibility does not apply to these stores.
17. We support the inclusion of requirements for new SVPs to be at least 100 metres from early childhood facilities. Childcare facilities were identified as sensitive sites in our submission to the Smoked Tobacco Regulatory Regime (January 2023 Consultation Document) on 22 March 2023.
18. We would like clarity on the potential impacts of excluding Specialist Vape Retailers from retail visibility restrictions.

19. Other

- 20.** Hamilton City Council is concerned with the health and wellbeing of vape users. Therefore, we are concerned about the revocation of Schedule 5, Part 1, clause 1A to remove required safety instructions from product labelling.
- 21.** We are supportive of the proposed next steps in the Government's Smokefree programme to review the Smokefree Action Plan to ensure continued alignment with the Smokefree 2025 goal.

Further Information and Hearings

- 22.** Should Parliament's Health Committee require clarification of the submission from Hamilton City Council staff, or additional information, please contact **Rebecca Whitehead** (Unit Director, Community Services) on **027 808 6392** or email rebecca.whitehead@hcc.govt.nz in the first instance.
- 23.** Hamilton City Council representatives **do not wish to speak** at the Health Committee hearings in support of this submission.

Yours faithfully



Lance Vervoort
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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