



WELSH TOBACCO CONTROL LEGISLATION

Smoking Ban in Wales

Smoke-free legislation came into force in Wales on 2nd April 2007, ending smoking in enclosed and substantially enclosed public places.

Compliance with the legislation has reflected the high levels of public support. Returns from local authorities show smoke-free compliance levels across Wales of around 97 per cent¹.

For reference to full details concerning the smoking ban in Wales. Please see:

www.smokingbanwales.co.uk

Public support for the legislation is continuing to grow

Opinion survey findings show that since the legislation was introduced, public support has risen to 84 per cent of adults in Wales (92 per cent of non-smokers and 63 per cent of smokers)². This compares with:

- ✓ 71 per cent of adults in February 2006³;
- ✓ 77 per cent of adults in February 2007 (88 per cent of non-smokers and 51 per cent of smokers)⁴.

Air quality has improved

Air quality can be monitored by measuring levels of airborne particles. Monitoring by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health has shown that air quality in pubs has improved significantly since the introduction of the smoke-free legislation, with particulate levels falling by an average of 77%⁵.

People are smoking less

30 per cent of smokers interviewed in a Welsh Omnibus Survey in 2008 said that they were smoking fewer cigarettes since the introduction of the ban⁶.

¹ Smoking ban Wales <http://wales.gov.uk/smokingbanwalessub/home/?skip=1&lang=en>

² Smoking ban Wales <http://wales.gov.uk/smokingbanwalessub/home/?skip=1&lang=en>

³ Smoking ban Wales <http://wales.gov.uk/smokingbanwalessub/home/?skip=1&lang=en>

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⁵ Environmental Tobacco smoke research project. CIEH Wales. 2009.

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/smokingban/publications/evaluation/091110airqualityreportency.pdf>

⁶ Welsh Health Survey 2008. Welsh Assembly Government. <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/healthsurvey2008/?lang=en>



More people are giving up smoking

Stop Smoking Wales has reported a 20 per cent increase in people contacting the service in response to the introduction of the smoke-free legislation. The service provides group and one to one support to help smokers quit ⁷.

Monitoring and evaluation of smoke-free legislation

Responsibility for enforcement of the smoke-free legislation rests with local authorities.

Future Legislation

On the 12 November 2009 the Health Bill received Royal Assent and became the Health Act 2009. The Health Act includes tobacco measures to ban the sales of tobacco products from point of sales displays by October 2011 (for larger retailers) and October 2013 (for smaller retailers) in Wales. By October 2011 sales of tobacco products will be banned from Vending Machines in Wales.

⁷ <http://www.stopsmokingwales.com/>