

## College Policy on a Smoke-Free Environment

### Introduction

### Objectives

The objectives of the College Policy on a Smoke-Free Environment are to:

- Ensure the College's compliance with requirements of the Health Act, 2006, concerning smoking.
- Protect staff, students and visitors against passive smoking by providing a smoke free-environment.
- Make provision for advice, and support to, staff and student smokers who wish to stop.

### Legal obligations

The College Policy on a Smoke Free Environment is designed to comply with the following relevant legislation:

- *Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)* and *The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (1992)* which places an obligation on employers to ensure the health, safety and welfare at work of all employees and outlines employers' duties to ensure that non-smokers are not affected by tobacco in rest rooms or rest areas.
- The *Health Bill (2006)* and *Smoke-free Premises and Vehicles Regulations (DOH 2006)* which prohibit smoking in enclosed or substantially enclosed workplaces and public places.

### Definitions

**Smoking** refers to smoking tobacco or anything which contains tobacco, or smoking any other substance. Smoking also includes being in possession of lit tobacco or of anything lit which contains tobacco, or being in possession of any other lit substance in a form which it could be smoked<sup>1</sup>.

**Enclosed premises** refers to premises that have a ceiling or roof and (except for doors, windows or passageways), are wholly enclosed whether on a permanent or temporary basis<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Health Act, Part 1, 2006

<sup>2</sup> Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations

**Substantially enclosed premises** refers to premises that have a ceiling or roof, but there are openings in the walls which are less than half of the total area of walls<sup>3</sup>.

**College premises** refers to all buildings and outside spaces on campuses and sites of the College that are either owned by the College or under its management.

**College vehicles** refers to all vehicles owned by the College.

## **College Policy**

### **(a) Policy**

All College premises and vehicles are smoke-free environments where smoking is prohibited. This applies to both indoor and outside locations and halls of residence.

### **(b) Scope of the policy**

The College Policy on a Smoke-Free Environment applies to all members of the College (staff, students, alumni, Council members) and visitors to the College. The College Policy on a Smoke-Free Environment applies to all College premises.

### **(c) Signage**

No-smoking signs are to be displayed in prominent positions that are visible to those entering and using the College premises at the each public entrance to the College. The format of signs will comply with the Regulations made under the powers of the Health Act 2006.

### **(d) Provisions for smokers wishing to stop**

The College wishes to promote the improvement of the health of its employees by providing information on the health risks and other problems related to smoking of tobacco products. People who receive professional help and support with quitting are more likely to be successful in their attempts to stop smoking. A list of organisations that support stopping smoking is annexed to this policy.

## **Enforcement of the Policy**

The elements of the policy enforced by law and the provisions of the law will take precedence. The relevant enforcement authority is the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Contravention of this policy by staff or students may be considered to be a disciplinary matter and dealt with in accordance with the relevant policy.

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<sup>3</sup> Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations.

## **Implementation, monitoring and review**

Responsibility for implementing and monitoring this policy rests with officers of the College.

Monitoring of the policy will be carried out by the Health and Safety Committee.

**Approved by resolution of Council: 28 June 2007**

## Organisations that support people who wish to stop smoking

### **Barts and The London NHS Trust's Smoking Cessation Clinic – 0800 169 1 943**

Run by Professor Peter Hajek, Professor of Clinical Psychology, this service provides advice and support to help staff and hospital in-patients who wish to give up smoking, including free No-Smoking Clinics at both The Royal London Hospital and Barts.

### **QMUL Occupational Health Department – internal 13-7207**

### **NHS Smoking Helpline - call free on 0800 169 0 169**

This friendly service can provide you with practical help and advice on giving up. For more advice and downloadable support information, log on to:

[www.givingupsmoking.co.uk](http://www.givingupsmoking.co.uk), or text 'GIVE UP' and your full postcode to **88088** to receive details of your local NHS Stop Smoking Service.

### **NHS Asian Tobacco Helplines:**

Punjabi	0800 169 0 882
Hindi	0800 169 0 883
Gujarati	0800 169 0 884
Bengali	0800 169 0 885

Urdu

0800 169 0 881

### **NHS Pregnancy Smoking Helpline - call free on 0800 169 9 169**

For friendly non-judgemental advice and offer of call-back service.

- **Further sources of facts and information on tobacco:**

#### **Tobacco Fact File:** [www.tobaccofactfile.org](http://www.tobaccofactfile.org)

Tobacco FactFile presents key facts and data about tobacco.

#### **Action on Smoking and Health:** [www.ash.org.uk](http://www.ash.org.uk)

ASH works to secure public, media, parliamentary, local and national Government support for a comprehensive programme to tackle the epidemic of tobacco-related disease.

#### **No Smoking Day:** [www.nosmokingday.org.uk](http://www.nosmokingday.org.uk)

The official website for No Smoking Day (6<sup>th</sup> March 2006)

#### **Quit:** [www.quit.org.uk](http://www.quit.org.uk)

UK Charity with lots of useful advice on giving up and staying stopped. Plus information on products and methods that might help you quit.

#### **Quit Smoking UK:** [www.quitsmokinguk.com](http://www.quitsmokinguk.com)

UK online community for quitting smokers by quitting smokers.

#### **BBC Kick the Habit:** [www.bbc.co.uk/health/kth](http://www.bbc.co.uk/health/kth)

BBC site aimed at helping visitors give up smoking.