

| Document Ref   | Smoke Free            | Rev Date | 09.2021 |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------|---------|
| Date of Issue  | 09.2021               | Author   | SHEQ    |
| Access Type    | Public                |          |         |
| Ezone Location | Project file 03.02.08 |          |         |

#### SMOKE FREE POLICY STATEMENT

### **Purpose**

This policy has been developed to protect all employees, customers and visitors from exposure to second-hand smoke and to assist in compliance with the Health Act 2006.

Exposure to second-hand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other serious illnesses. Ventilation or separating smokers and non-smokers within the same airspace does not completely stop potentially dangerous exposure.

## **Policy**

It is the policy of Erith that all our workplaces are smoke-free, except for designated outdoor, marked areas and all employees have a right to work in a smoke-free environment. This includes the use of electronic cigarettes and vapers. Smoking or vaping is prohibited in all enclosed and substantially enclosed premises in the workplace and all work vehicles if they are used by more than one person. This policy applies to all employees, customers, consultants, contractors and visitors.

### Implementation

Overall responsibility for policy implementation and review rests with the directors. However, all employees are obliged to adhere to and support the implementation of the policy. They shall inform all existing employees of the policy and their role in the implementation and monitoring of the policy. They will also ensure that new employees are informed of the policy on recruitment and/or induction. Appropriate 'No-Smoking' signs will be clearly displayed at the entrances to and within the organisation's premises and in all smoke-free vehicles.

Where smoking is permitted within signed, designated areas, these will accommodate either smokers or vapers unless identified otherwise.

## Non-compliance

Disciplinary procedures will be followed if a member of staff does not comply with this policy. Those who do not comply with smoke-free law may also be liable to a fixed penalty fine and possible criminal prosecution.

# Help to stop smoking

The NHS offers a range of free services to help smokers give up. Visit link; https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree

Signed for and on behalf of the Executive Board:

Steven Darsey Company Chairman 25/09/2024

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