

Smoke-free covered transport waiting areas

From 31 May 2012, smoking is banned under all covered public transport waiting areas, including bus, tram, train and taxi shelters and other areas used to board or alight from public transport that are covered by a roof.

Why covered public transport waiting areas?

Banning smoking at covered public transport waiting areas protects people in confined outdoor public places. These areas have been identified as having a higher risk of being exposed to tobacco smoke than in areas that are not covered.

Is smoking permitted next to a covered transport stop?

Yes, as long as the person smoking is not standing within the covered area.

What about when its raining?

Smoking is prohibited under all covered public transport stops, regardless of the weather conditions.

Does the covered area of a bus stop just mean the roof attached to the bus stop?

No, the roof of a covered area is not required to be part of the bus stop. Any covered space of a public transport waiting area is included. For example, a bus stop covered by a roof from an adjacent building will be smoke-free.

Who will enforce the law?

Authorised officers under the *Tobacco Products Regulation Act 1997* will be responsible for enforcing this law.

What is the fine?

An expiation notice of \$75 can be issued. The maximum fine is \$200.

Support for smoke-free outdoor areas

Tobacco smoke in outdoor areas can produce symptoms of ill health and can aggravate many conditions such as asthma, chronic obstructive airways diseases and cystic fibrosis.

Smoke-free areas, both indoor and outdoor, are designed to protect the health of children and people with pre-existing conditions. They also increase the comfort and enjoyment for all people using public spaces, especially spaces that may be crowded or where people congregate.

There is a high level of public support in South Australia to introduce outdoor smoking bans, with 96% of people supporting a ban for smoking around children's playgrounds and 71% concerned about being exposed to someone else's cigarette smoke.¹

Most other States and Territories in Australia have introduced or announced their intentions to introduce similar bans.

Support to quit smoking

For information and support to quit smoking, call the Quitline 13 7848, visit www.quitsa.org.au to register for text messaging support or talk to a GP or pharmacist.

¹ TCRC. Key smoking statistics for SA – 2010. Adelaide, Australia: Tobacco Control Research and Evaluation, Cancer Council SA, March 2011.

For more information

Health Protection Branch
SA Health
PO Box 6, Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone: 1300 363 703 (SA only)
or 08 8226 7142
www.tobaccolaws.sa.gov.au

