

Draft Smoke-free Regulations 2007 – E-Consultation on-line response

Individual/Unclassified Response No.29

Q1: YES

Q1a: If you wish to comment, please do so here

Q2: YES

Q2a: If you wish to comment, please do so here

Q3: YES

Q3a: A Regional Policy for H&SS Providers needs to be developed to ensure that workers providing domiciliary care are protected from environmental tobacco smoke and that the public are aware of such a policy. This may include the patient/client agreeing not to smoke whilst care is being provided and some time prior to treatment e.g. 1 hour.

Q4: YES

Q4a: Designated smoking rooms need to remain so at all times and not be re-allocated if the hotel busy etc.

Q5: YES

Q5a: We do agree that at present the above should have designated smoking areas but we would like the exemptions to be extended to acute mental health facilities. The facility in Ards Hospital is classified as an acute short-term service, however, due to the reduction in continuing care facilities many patients are resident beyond six months. Also due to lack of resources we have a number of people aged under 18 years admitted to the adult ward.

We often deal with extremely aggressive and hostile patients and if they wish to smoke how are staff going to prevent them from doing so?

We feel that there needs to be a debate on this issue amongst mental health professionals, users and carers.

Q6: YES

Q6a: If you wish to comment, please do so here

Q7: YES

Q7a: If you wish to comment, please do so here