

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

Response from Regional Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)

Q1: YES

Q1a: The RQIA believe that in certain circumstances the minimum requirements may not be adequate. Larger signs and the provision of a sign in Braille may be required for those who are visually impaired and a prominent sign at eye-level may not be seen by wheel chair users.

Q2: YES

Q2a: The RQIA would reiterate that the minimum requirements for the sign may not always be adequate and that consideration should be given as to how signs can be made more accessible.

Q3: YES

Q3a: The Authority would welcome guidance as to whether those persons who would provide personal care, e.g. district nurses, health visitors, domiciliary care workers, would be expected to work in a private dwelling which is not smoke-free or would have a choice with regard to this.

Q4: YES

Q4a:

Q5: YES

Q5a: The Authority agrees that residential care homes, nursing homes, hospitals and long term mental health units are home to those who live there and those resident should as far as possible have the same rights as an individual in their own private dwelling.

However, in order to insure the safety of all residents it may not be suitable to designate bedrooms as smoking rooms.

The designated room must be accessible to all residents, allowing for disabled access.

As residents may require supervision when in the designated room guidance is required as to whether care staff will be expected to supervise in such circumstances, or have a choice with regard to this.

Where a proprietor determines not to designate a smoking room potential residents should be informed of this in writing.

Q6: YES

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

Q7: YES

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