

## **Smoking Policy**

### **St Michael's Hall Green Anglican/Methodist Church**

**Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016**

#### **Introduction**

This no-smoking policy seeks to guarantee the right of all employees and visitors to breathe air free of tobacco smoke and to comply with smoke-free legislation: The Health Act 2006. Passive smoking, has been medically proven to cause lung cancer and heart disease in non-smokers, also been proven to cause asthma and migraine attacks, as well as other serious illnesses and minor conditions.

#### **The Penalties for Non-Compliance with the Legislation**

- Failing to display no-smoking signs in premises covered by the law (£200 fixed penalty notice, or up to £1000 Court fine);
- Smoking in a smoke-free place (£50 fixed penalty notice, or up to £200 Court fine);
- Failing to prevent smoking in a smoke-free place (up to £2500 Court fine).

#### **The Management of This Policy**

Therefore, it is the policy of St Michael's, Hall Green that all our rooms are smoke free, and that centre users, visitors and employees have a right to a smoke free environment. Smoking is not permitted in any part of the premises including corridors, stairways, meeting rooms, toilets, reception areas, entrances/exits, grounds including the car park, front garden area and vehicles at any time, by any person regardless of their status or business with St Michael's PCC.

#### **Adequate Signage and Facilities for Disposal of Smoking Refuse, etc.**

St.Michael's PCC is responsible for ensuring the implementation and maintenance of this policy. Appropriate 'no-smoking' signs will be clearly displayed at the entrances to and within the premises, and in all smoke-free vehicles. Smokers are responsible for disposal of cigarette litter including discarded cigarette butts, cigarette packets, matches and match boxes. Smoking litter should be disposed of in designated bins and not discarded on the ground. Alternatively, portable fireproof ashtrays can be used. These can be purchased from [www.myashtray.com](http://www.myashtray.com); or by telephoning 01438 365300

#### **Enforcement of the Smoke-Free Legislation**

Council enforcement officers will have the power to enter no-smoking premises to determine whether the law is being upheld. They also assess whether or not those in control of the premises have taken all reasonable precautions to avoid people smoking. All users of St.Michael's Church Centre have a responsibility in ensuring their personal compliance and in ensuring that all those who enter the premises are made aware of the policy. Those who do not comply with the smoke-free law may be liable to a fixed penalty fine and possible criminal prosecution.

#### **Help for those who Smoke**

It is recognised that the smoking policy will impact on smokers' working lives.

St.Michael's PCC will support any who would like to quit smoking and suggest the following free services that are available.

- Smokers Helplines:
- 0800 052 5855; email: [BHCNT.stopsmoking@nhs.net](mailto:BHCNT.stopsmoking@nhs.net)
- 0121 704 6000; email: [Bhs-tr.Solihullstopsmoking@nhs.net](mailto:Bhs-tr.Solihullstopsmoking@nhs.net)

#### **Non Compliance**

Disciplinary procedures will be followed if centre users and employees do not comply with this policy.