
No smoking regulations

- how they affect church buildings

New regulations banning smoking in public places in England came into force on 1st July 2007.

The Regulations require you to display one A5 notice at all public entrances to church buildings. This must include the international (red circular 70mm) no smoking sign. It must also carry the wording 'NO SMOKING It is against the law to smoke in these premises'. But the 'in this premises ' wording can be changed to read, for example 'in this church' 'in this church hall'. It could be adapted to be included in a general notice encouraging appropriate behaviour for a house of prayer.

The signs do not have to be permanently fixed to the fabric - a poster on the noticeboard, or a sign in a portable stand, is adequate. Signs should not be attached to the historic fabric of ancient churches.

A small 70mm international sign is also required at all staff (i.e. not public) entrances.

Signs can be obtained on request from local authorities or the Department of Health. You can also download a pdf file, which will enable you to print your own signs, from the diocesan web site www.stalbans.anglican.org

Further information on the regulations can be found at www.smokefreeengland.co.uk

Additional information and advice is available from the DAC team:

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