

## **UUHSM 33 SMOKING LEGISLATION**

1. With effect from 30 April 2007 smoking in enclosed public places and workplaces in Northern Ireland has been prohibited. The objective of this legislation is to protect employees and the general public from exposure to second-hand smoke.

2. In order to ensure compliance with this legislation the University has adopted the following policy with effect from 30 June 2007.

Smoking is prohibited :-

- i) within University buildings and substantially enclosed spaces;
- ii) within the exclusion zones defined at the entrances to University buildings;
- iii) within vehicles owned and operated by the University;
- iv) within vehicles used during University business to transport more than one University employee or student;
- v) at any other place where tobacco smoke can enter into any University building or vehicle

This policy applies to all University staff, students, visitors and contractors.

3. Under the legislation a person smoking in a smoke-free place may be subject to a fixed-penalty fine of £50 or to a maximum fine on summary conviction of £1,000. Additionally, if it fails to prevent smoking within smoke-free premises the University may be subject to a maximum fine on summary conviction of £2,500.

4. In order to meet the requirements of the legislation and to protect the University from prosecution, in addition to any statutory sanction that may be enforced, all breaches of the Smoking Policy are subject to disciplinary action for both staff and students. Visitors and contractors who breach the policy may be excluded from University premises. People smoking tobacco products in prohibited areas are required to give a civil and courteous response when asked to extinguish them.

5. Staff who wish to register a complaint regarding non-compliance with this policy should first contact their Head of School/Department. If their complaint is not dealt with to their satisfaction, staff should contact Health and Safety Services via their Head of School/Department or Health and Safety Co-ordinator.

6. Assistance will be given to staff who wish to stop smoking by means such as:

- GP/local pharmacist services
- details of local stop smoking support services
- promotion of the Health Promotion Agency's Smokers Helpline
- ongoing University health promotion initiatives