

Level 3 90831

NCEA Education for Sustainability (EFS) 2018

AS 90831: Analyse the impact that policies have on a sustainable future (5 credits)

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse the impact that policies have on a sustainable future.	Analyse in depth the impact that policies have on a sustainable future.	Critically analyse the impact that policies have on a sustainable future.

Overall level of attainment for 90831

A

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the impact that policies have on a sustainable future. Identifies the forces that have shaped at least two policies. Explains the relationship between these policies and the aspects of sustainability. Draws conclusions based on evidence and examples on the impact of the policies on the aspects of sustainability. The impact on policies will be based on an analysis of the practices to implement them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse in depth the impact that policies have on a sustainable future. Uses at least two forces per policy, e.g. political, cultural, environmental, social, and/or economic. Explains how forces have shaped at least two policies in the context of sustainability. Evaluates in depth the extent to which these policies achieve their intended outcomes. Where possible includes Māori Concepts and Values relating to environment, which may vary between hapū and between iwi. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically analyse the impact that policies have on a sustainable future. Analysis includes discussion on the ability of both policies to achieve its intent. Analysis provides insight on the extent to which both policies achieve a sustainable future. Analysis includes Māori Concepts and Values relating to environment, which may vary between hapū and between iwi.
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Policies External

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Executive Summary:

This report is looking at the two Selwyn District Council Policies that are leading to a more sustainable future. This is being achieved via the Smokefree and Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy.

Smokefree Policy

The Smokefree Public Outdoors Areas Policy was approved in December of 2011 by the Selwyn District Council. This policy has been in place with the aim of reducing the amount of children and young people starting to smoke in the Selwyn District. The Selwyn District reaches from Arthurs Pass to Lincoln, as seen in the map to the left. So as you can see from the map to the left that the Selwyn Area is quite large, meaning that this policy will affect a lot of people.

The policy was formed with the help of Smokefree, an organisation to help reduce the

number of smokers in New Zealand¹. And because Smokefree is known almost everywhere in New Zealand having them help create and carry out the policy, the policy has a lot of awareness about it now. This awareness may not be obvious at first, but when you look at a public park, reserve or any public area in the Selwyn District you will be hard pressed to see anyone smoking. Although because there is no enforcement measures² in place a few people will still smoke in public areas. But a lot of people respect that people don't want the smell of cigarette smoke at parks and alike so they will not smoke in those areas.

Social Forces Behind the Smokefree policy

Socially smoking in public outdoor areas is disliked by the majority of the population in the Selwyn District, hence the reason for the Smokefree Public



<https://www.google.co.nz/maps/place/Selwyn+District,+Canterbury/@-43.3077788,170.7626703,8z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x6d2e1689191e2127:0x400ef8684795610!8m2!3d-43.2652165!4d171.7787021>

¹ <https://www.smokefree.org.nz/smokefree-environments/why-do-we-have-smokefree-environments>

²

<https://www.selwyn.govt.nz/services/noise-And-environmental-health/smokefree/smokefree-public-outdoor-areas-policy> - see bottom of the page above Approval date to see Enforcement section of the policy.

Outdoors Areas Policy. You can view the full policy here:

(<https://www.selwyn.govt.nz/services/noise-And-environmental-health/smokefree/smokefree-public-outdoor-areas-policy>) As stated in the policy shown above the main reasons for this policy to be acted upon is children coping adults, the general dislike of cigaret smoke smells and people with medical contitions. When children see adults doing something they tend to copy what they see the adults doing as a way of



<https://www.otago.ac.nz/wellington/departments/publichealth/research/smokefree-outdoor-area-research/>

learning. Many children will begin smoking at a young age to because they believe it makes them cool³. And as stated in the Policy the core objective of the policy is “The reduction of smoking uptake by children and young people. This policy is an educational tool to discourage smoking in public outdoor areas where people, particularly children and young people, gather.”⁴ You can see in the image to the left, one of the signs used by Smokefree to help raise awareness about not smoking at playgrounds.

Also in social situations at parks and public outdoor areas, many people do not like to have the smell of cigarette smoke around them. For many people, myself included, do not like hanging out at a park the smells like cigarettes. Even walking past someone who is smoking put someone off. For some people, like myself, they just hate the smell of cigarette smoke and will try avoid it when possible. But for others, there can be medical reasons behind them wanting to avoid cigarettes. Conditions such as asthma can be triggered by cigarette smoke⁵.

This means that if a public area is prone to having smokers in it then it is highly likely that people will start avoiding that area, not wanting to be somewhere where they have to smell cigarettes while trying to have a fun time with family and friends. However this can not be said for the entire population, as the entire population of the Selwyn District may not all dislike cigarettes being smoked. For example people who do smoke, or people who are used to the act and smell of cigarettes being smoked.⁶

Environmental Forces behind the Smokefree Policy

³ <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/smoking.html>

⁴ Quote taken from Policy Details section of the Smokefree Policy.

⁵ <https://www.webmd.com/asthma/guide/smoking-and-asthma#1>

⁶ Was unable to find any statistics on number of smokers in Selwyn District Area.

The main environmental forces behind the Smokefree Policy was the damage caused by cigarette smoke being released into the atmosphere and the harm of plant and animal life from discarded cigarette butts. When a person exhales cigarette smoke they are exhaling harmful gases/toxins into the air. These gases/toxins then make their way into Earth's atmosphere and aid to the other greenhouse gases already in our atmosphere, all contributing to climate change and global warming⁷

The discarded cigarette butts also pose a threat to our environments. When they are left on the ground the harmful toxins from the cigarette will seep into the soil and mess with the soil chemistry (ie pH and nitrate levels). This can lead to problems with plants growing in the area, such as plants absorbing these harmful chemicals and then being negatively affected by them (ie having trouble growing or photosynthesising)⁸. This has significance for the Selwyn area as almost all of the public areas have plant life.

Cigarette butts can also cause harm to the wildlife. This may not be such of an problem in built up areas such as Rolleston and Lincoln. But for the areas in more rural and mountainous areas this is a big problem. Take the forests around Arthurs Pass, there are large numbers of native bird species in the area. Like the Kea which is endangered. If one of these birds or animals were to eat a discarded cigarette butt then it can have grave consequences for the individual who eat it. This in turn can then affect the population of that species.⁹ Cigarettes can also get into our aquatic environments via drains and waterways, then affects Selwyns aquatic species as well.



<https://www.wildeyes.co.nz/missions/nest-architect/>

Discarded cigarette butts don't just pose a threat to plant and animal life in Selwyn but also the human residences. Young children can stand on them or pick them up in parks and hurt themselves.

⁷ <https://vapingdaily.com/support/environmental-responsibility/> - Although an American site and information is based in America the facts are the same for here in New Zealand.

⁸ <https://vapingdaily.com/support/environmental-responsibility/>

⁹

<https://www.conserve-energy-future.com/serious-effects-cigarette-smoking-environment-and-human-health.php>

Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy

The Selwyn trees and vegetation in Selwyn district management policy is focused on making sure plant life in the Selwyn area is looked after and can help lead to a sustainable future. This is achieved through making people aware of what they can plant on public and private land and the circumstances when they can plant. This leads to the communities in the Selwyn area and the general public getting a happier experience out of the plant life in Selwyn.

The trees and vegetation in Selwyn District management policy¹⁰ is focused on looking after our native and non native plants, and making it easier for people to work in conjunction with them. This policy will help people be aware of what they can plant in public places in the Selwyn area, thus helping increase the number of New Zealand native trees in Selwyn. Also to insure the plants on private or public land do not cause problems for the public or community, and helps with a sustainable future Selwyn. The full policy can be seen here:

https://www.selwyn.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/25588/FINAL-Trees-and-Vegetation-Policy.2109.pdf .

Environmental forces behind the Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy

In Selwyn looking after the environment is very important, so this policy is important for the Selwyn area. This policy insures that plant life in public areas is looked after and cared for, meaning that people can get more out of the public spaces. It also helps guide both organisations and private Selwyn citizens in terms of what is best to plant to help create a cleaner and more sustainable Selwyn. The policy lists a number of undesirable trees and plants, as well as preferred native trees and plants¹¹. It also names and describes two common diseases to out trees to look out for so a disease doesn't spread to trees and plants in different areas of Selwyn.

¹⁰

¹¹ See page 55 of policy

Because the Selwyn District is planting native trees and plants in public areas such as parks, playgrounds and reserves it is helping the ecosystem grow. By planting native trees and plants in the Selwyn area it is helping encourage native bird life the nest in them. This may not affect the built up areas like Rolleston or Lincoln much but in areas near the Southern Alps, like Arthurs Pass, it does make a difference. By planting native trees the Selwyn District is helping to bring back the ecosystem that thrived before Europeans arrived and chopped down trees and planted introduced plant and tree species that took over environments¹².

This policy also insures that plants and trees are damaged due to them getting in the way. In the policy it clearly states rules and restrictions on what you can plant where. These rules are in place to make sure plants and trees don't become a hazard or hindrance for the public and private house owners.¹³

Economic forces behind the Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy

In terms of economics this policy is helpful because it helps contribute to a economic and sustainable future. By making sure trees and plants in public area are keep under control it helps insure people will visit these public areas. People visiting these places can include locals and tourists. Locals will come to these public places and most likely use other resources, like diaries, in the same areas. This means that money is going back into the community and the NZ government. And tourists visiting these places will do the same thing. But they will also be paying for accommodation and tours(tours of Arthurs Pass) These all means that money is going back into the communities leading to a more economic future.

The policy also means that jobs are offered to people to look after and keep track of these plantings. With more jobs available it means the community is more likely to be economically secure.

How the Smokefree Policy and the Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy has been put into practise

Both policies has been implemented by the Selwyn District Council, other organisations, and volunteers. For the smokefree policy it has been implemented by the Selwyn district council and Smokefree. Both worked to post signs at public areas and raise awareness. While the Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management

¹² Example: Pine trees

¹³ See page 19 - 20 of policy

policy was implemented by the Selwyn District Council and DOC¹⁴, as well as volunteers and outside organisations that look after the plant life. The Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy has been a good community focus. This has been achieved by having planting days to help get the community involved and raise awareness about the trees and plants in Selwyn areas.

What has been achieved

Smokefree Policy

The smoke free policy in Selwyn has been effective. When now this because of statistics done by Otago University¹⁵. The report states that the amount of young smokers and smokers in general has decreased over the past 5 years. Also when you go to a public area in Selwyn you almost never see anyone smoking, which is a reflection of how well the policy is doing.

Environmental forces behind the Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy

We know the Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy has worked by just looking around Selwyn. Almost everywhere you go in Selwyn you will see we'll keep trees and vegetation in both public and private areas. It has also achieved in bring the communities together by group planting and providing nice places to go.

Conclusion

Both policies are achieving the goal of helping Selwyn becoming more sustainable. The smoke free policy has helped social aspects of sustainability via preventing children from smoking and preventing people from smoking in public areas. It also helps protect our environment from damage from cigarette butts.

The Trees and vegetation in selwyn district management policy helps keep the Selwyn environment clean and healthy and gets the economics of Selwyn stay Healthy.

Bibliography

See all websites mentioned in footnotes

¹⁴ Department Of Conservation

¹⁵ <https://www.otago.ac.nz/wellington/otago442604.pdf>

Achievement Exemplar 2018

Subject	Education for Sustainability	Standard	90831	Total score	04
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
1	A4	<p>The candidate has provided enough evidence for A4 in this question, because the relationship between policies and aspects of sustainability has been explained. The evidence provided does not reach M5, because these policies have not been evaluated in depth with regard to achieving their intended outcomes. In addition, the explanation of how two forces have shaped at least two policies within the context of sustainability was limited.</p> <p>There was no reference to Māori concepts and values relating to the natural environment.</p>			