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Subject: Smokefree - 100 Day Countdown Begins

Smokefree - 100 day countdown starts

A smokefree England will be a reality in just 100 days time and Wealden is stepping up its campaign to help businesses get ready for the 1 July start date. Comprehensive guidance detailing all elements of the smokefree legislation and various resources are now available (visit www.smokefreeengland.co.uk/resources or www.wealdenbusinesshelp.org.uk/Smokefree/Index.aspx) and in April the Government will be mailing guidance leaflets along with free no-smoking signs to over 1.7m businesses across the country. Gail Fenn, Wealden's Regulation Adviser said:

"We are now entering an important period, when all businesses should start preparing for compliance. They should be removing any smoking rooms and begin putting up 'no smoking' signs. To help businesses understand the new law a series of very useful fact sheets are available on the Wealden web site (<http://www.wealdenbusinesshelp.org.uk/Smokefree/FactSheets.aspx>). We are confident that the support being provided by Wealden and the Department of Health will mean everyone should be ready in time".

A survey of people in the **South East of England** shows that: .

77% of people in the South East support the legislation;
66% of people in the South East say that the legislation will not affect how often they go to the pub and
19% of the population in the South East say they will go more often;
78% of people in the South East believe that going smokefree will have a positive effect on health.

If you and your employees would like to know more about the health benefits of a smokefree England, visit <http://www.smokefreeengland.co.uk/whysmokefree/whysmokefree.html>. If you would like help to give up smoking, visit <http://data.gosmokefree.co.uk/localservicesearch.aspx>