

Smoke-free Areas Survey

Kingsway- Glen Waverley &
Eaton Mall – Oakleigh

July 2021

Smoke free areas survey: Kingsway

Introduction

The survey was available online between 22 June and 23 July 2021. Registration to the engagement platform, Shape Monash was a requirement to participate in the survey. Of the 881 surveys completed, 96% were submitted from just 7 devices¹ and in rapid succession, indicating the majority of responses were made by a handful of individuals as bulk submissions.

Bulk submissions

	Number of surveys completed	Percent
Device 1	49	6%
Device 2	109	12%
Device 3	173	20%
Device 4	170	19%
Device 5	33	4%
Device 6	127	14%
Device 7	183	21%
Totals	844	96%

The number and proportion of bulk submissions compared with individual submissions are shown below:

	Number	Percent
Individual submitter	37	4.2%
Bulk submitter	844	95.8%
Total	881	100%

¹ Council's engagement platform de-identifies IP addresses but provides sufficient information to identify multiple survey-taking.

Summary of bulk submissions (n=844)

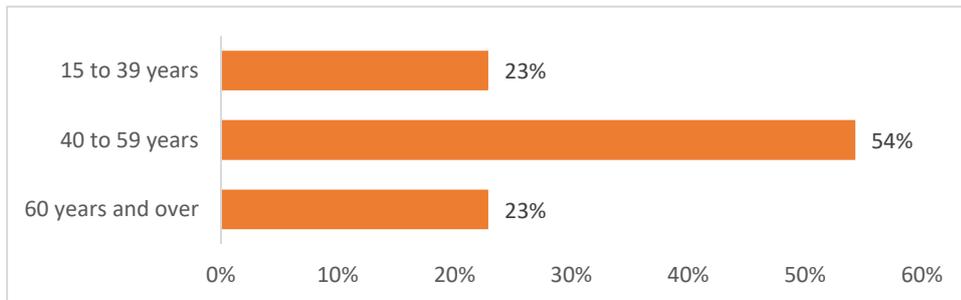
Gender	Women	43%
	Men	57%
Age	15 to 39 years	62%
	40 to 59 years	32%
	60 years and over	6%
Smoking status	Smokers	67%
	Non-smokers	33%
Resident of the City of Monash?	Yes	58%
	No	42%
Q1. Do you agree with the size and extent of the smoke-free area designated on the map?	Yes	0%
	No	100%
Q2. If not, what boundaries would you change, if any?	I do not agree with any smoke free designated areas as proposed by Council.	N=50
	No response	N=794
Q3. What is your connection to the area?	Business owner	N=1
	Member of the public	N=843
Q4. Would you like to provide your views regarding benefits or detriment to the community that may arise from the proposal?	Yes	N=3
	No	N=840
Q5. Please provide a short statement addressing any benefits or detriments to the community in relation to the proposal.	Statements provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This is discrimination - council doesn't care if the community smokes or not.</i> <i>This is discrimination against specific races that populate these two areas.</i> <i>ALL the businesses in Glen Waverley will suffer dramatically. It should not be smoke free.</i> 	N=3
	Statement not provided	N=841

Results of individual submissions

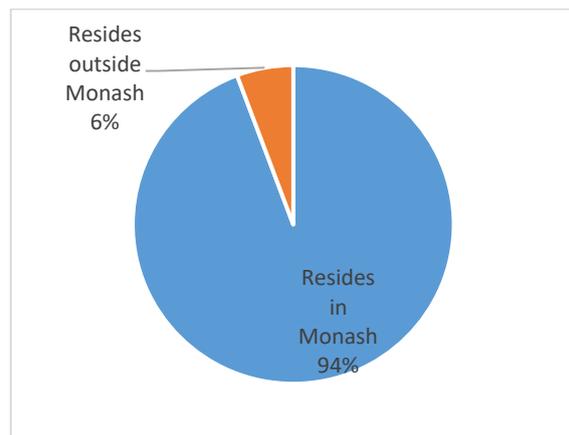
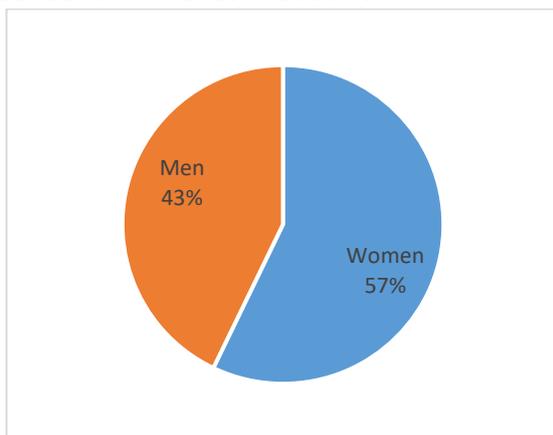
Number of respondents = 37

Respondent profile

Age group



Gender and Monash residents



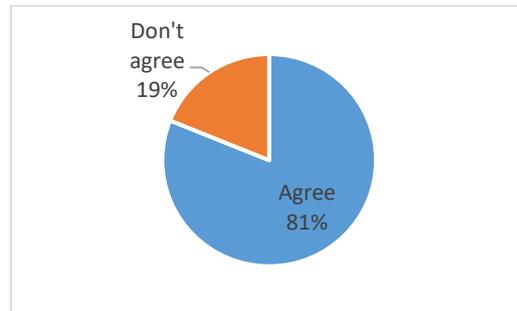
Smokers

	Number
Smoker	1
Non-smoker	34
Not specified	2
Total	37



Q1. Do you agree with the size and extent of the smoke free area designated on the map?

	Number	Percent
Agree	30	81.1%
Don't agree	7	18.9%
Total	37	100



Q2. If not, what boundaries would you change, if any?

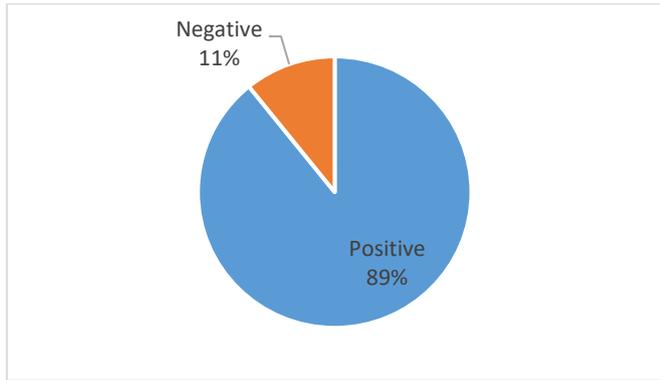
Among those that disagreed with the proposed boundaries, three participants provided a response:

- *It does not go far enough. I'm not sure if it covers the two train station streets*
- *It should encompass the entire precinct*
- *Smoke free zones along all shop fronts of railway parade north and south, all shops along Coleman parade to Springvale road, all shop front along Springvale road, all shop fronts that are on the rear of shops fronting kingsway / opposite Dan Murphy*

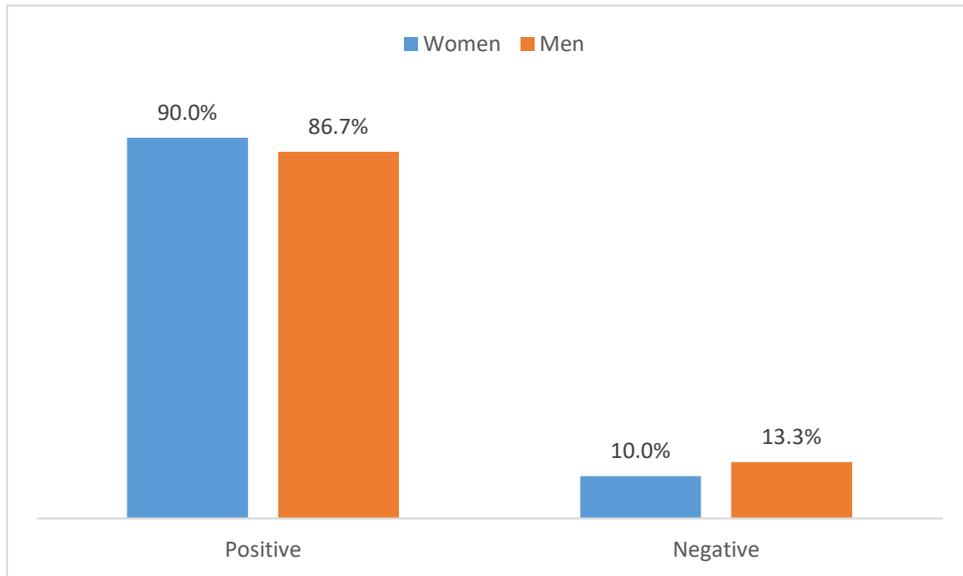
As each of these comments indicate at least positive sentiment toward the proposal, positive sentiment is demonstrated by 89% of respondents.

Sentiment toward smoke-free boundaries in Kingsway:

Sentiment	Frequency	Percent
Positive	33	89.2
Negative	4	10.8



Sentiment by gender



Q3. What is your connection to the area?

	Number	Percent
Property owner	2	5.4
Member of public	35	94.6
Total	37	100

Q4. Would you like to provide your views regarding benefits or detriment to the community that may arise from the proposal?

	Number	Percent
Yes	19	51%
No	17	46%
Total	36	97%

Q5. Please provide a short statement addressing any benefits or detriments to the community in relation to the proposal.

All statements addressed the benefits to the community. About two-thirds were related to improved amenity of the area by making it smoke free, and about one-third related to the health benefits. All statements are included below.

1. *Smoking is a health hazard. Passive smoking is a health hazard. All shops and businesses in the area should have smoke free zone outside in the footpaths. I think it is discrimination and illogical to have some shop front/footpaths as smoke free and others not. It should be all, including shops between glen and the road with the chicken /hairdresser shop.*
2. *This will be a fantastic change. The entire atmosphere of Kingsway will greatly improve by prohibiting people from smoking there, and the health and happiness of all who work and reside there will benefit from this new rule.*
3. *I fully support the proposal. For too long smokers have been allowed to dominate public spaces in Monash making them virtually unusable to other members of the public that don't want to put up with the chain smoking that takes place. My family and many other members of the community avoid areas like Kingsway because of the smoking. It's unfair that we aren't able to enjoy the great space that has been created by the Council so that a minority can smoke. Thank you so much for putting this proposal forward. To me, it is clear the community does not want smokers to ruin the public spaces for them. It is a serious health concern, as well as all of the cigarette butts that are littered. I hope that in time the Council will go further than these two proposals and also extend this to other activity centres throughout Monash. Thank you*
4. *We need Kingsway outdoor areas to be completely smoke free to enjoy food without smoke! This is a health issue where smoking impacts the health and enjoyment of others and is simply unfair and out dated. Please clean this up and make it accessible for everyone*
5. *Passive smoking is incredible harmful to the people around the smoker. It is especially unfair to the babies, children and elderly to have to breathe it in. When I am out with my family and friends, the last thing I wasn't is to breathe in smoke while enjoying a meal. This is also very unfair and unkind to people around who are recovering or being treated for an illness and just wanting some time out then having to be surrounded by the harmful effects of smoke inhalation.*
6. *I will be able to take my family here without fear of a lunch outside ruined by smoke.*
7. *As a family with 3 asthmatics, it's often uncomfortable walking through there, creating coughing which is frowned upon in pandemic times. Makes it easier to avoid the whole area, which isn't great for local business.*
8. *Kingsway is a location dominated by outdoor dining areas and comparatively narrow footpaths. The Victorian Health Act prohibits smoking in, or within 4 m of, an outdoor dining area. These two factors effectively prohibit smoking in much of Kingsway already; the proposed legislation simply formalises this reality and removes scope for quibbling over where limits apply. Further, the narrow paths make it impossible for a smoker (or vaper) to confine their toxic fume away from others.*
9. *Best to have the whole of 3150 smoke free.*
10. *As a mum with young children, I will be better able to utilise the restaurants and facilities, especially in Eaton Mall, if they were smoke free.*
11. *I generally avoid Kingsway because of the smell from smokers.*
12. *My family members and I frequent this area for food and shopping almost daily. While walking past the outside entrance of the centre way going to the theatres, we always encountered so many smokers hanging around smoking. They were so inconsiderate and we could smell the filth of smokes all the way into the entryway. Putting the smoke-free zone is a great idea.*

13. *Due to COVID-19, there is an increase in outdoor dining to keep the community safe. By creating a smoke free zone around the dining precinct, this would allow for both diners, and pedestrians to enjoy the area, without the risk of exposure to smoke.*
14. *With increased outdoor seating areas post Covid, it is important to reduce the impact of secondary smoke to those diners as well as anyone using the civic centre or Glen Waverley library*
15. *When visiting Kingsway I find it very uncomfortable to walk through smoke. It is definitely a health hazard, and spoils the ambience of the visit.*
16. *Smokers may have a RIGHT to smoke, but they also have a RESPONSIBILITY to consider others around them in public spaces. Smokers often ignore signs, and when challenged, often become aggressive. This does not make for an enjoyable visit to Glen Waverley. The proposed by-laws do not make it illegal to smoke - smokers can still enjoy (?) smoking in other places, just not where it affects the enjoyment of others. I leave aside the arguments about public health. They have been well rehearsed.*
17. *I understand it will be unpleasant for smokers but considering the density of the population in this area, and people are more likely to dine in the open area due to the COVID, it is hard for non-smokers to get away. Therefore, I support this new proposal.*
18. *It is an excellent idea to stop smoking in areas with many eateries to prevent the inhalation of second hand smoke.*
19. *The health benefit should already be a priority to support this proposal. The young and old can all enjoy walking through a smoke free area while shopping or enjoy sitting outside for their food if preferred. The hospitality businesses may be concerned on the drop of patronage since diners are not allowed to smoke while having their meals or drinks. However, I feel patrons will adapt to this change and appreciate that smoke free space is also good for them. When air travel banned smoking there were so much concern about passengers unable to cope without smoking for many hours of travel. However, evidence from all these years since the ban should this concern was unfounded. Therefore smoke free areas may actually promote increased patronages for the businesses.*

Smoke free areas survey: Eaton Mall

Introduction

The survey was available online between 22 June and 23 July 2021. Registration to the engagement platform, Shape Monash was a requirement to participate in the survey. Of the 927 surveys completed, 92% were submitted from just 7 devices² and in rapid succession, indicating the majority of responses were made by a handful of individuals as bulk submissions.

Bulk submissions

	Number of surveys completed	Percent
Device 1	49	5.3%
Device 2	109	11.8%
Device 3	173	18.7%
Device 4	170	18.3%
Device 5	33	3.6%
Device 6	136	14.7%
Device 7	185	20.0%
Totals	855	92.4%

The number and proportion of bulk submissions compared with individual submissions are shown below:

	Number	Percent
Individual submitter	72	7.8%
Bulk submitter	855	92.2%
Total	927	100%

² Council's engagement platform de-identifies IP addresses but provides sufficient information to identify multiple survey-taking.

Summary of bulk submissions (n=855)

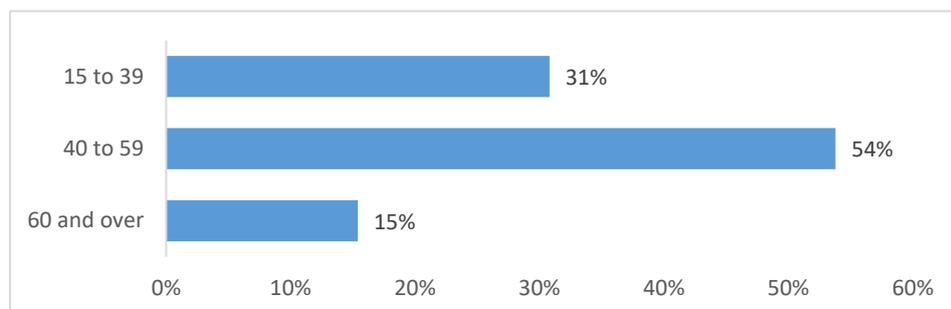
Gender	Women	42%
	Men	57%
Age	15 to 39 years	62%
	40 to 59 years	32%
	60 years and over	6%
Smoking status	Smokers	67%
	Non-smokers	33%
Resident of the City of Monash?	Yes	57%
	No	43%
Q1. Do you agree with the size and extent of the smoke-free area designated on the map?	Yes	0%
	No	100%
Q2. If not, what boundaries would you change, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>I do not agree with any smoke free designated areas as proposed by Council.</i> 	N=55
	No response	N=800
Q3. What is your connection to the area?	Business owner	N=4
	Member of the public	N=851
Q4. Would you like to provide your views regarding benefits or detriment to the community that may arise from the proposal?	Yes	N=3
	No	N=852
Q5. Please provide a short statement addressing any benefits or detriments to the community in relation to the proposal.	<p>Statements provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This is discrimination against specific races that populate these two areas.</i> <i>ALL the businesses in Eaton mall will suffer dramatically. It should not be smoke free.</i> <i>Keep it as it is with smoking areas. It has been working well. Some people in the council should actually do something productive during their work hours, rather than think up bullshit ideas.</i> 	

Results of individual submissions

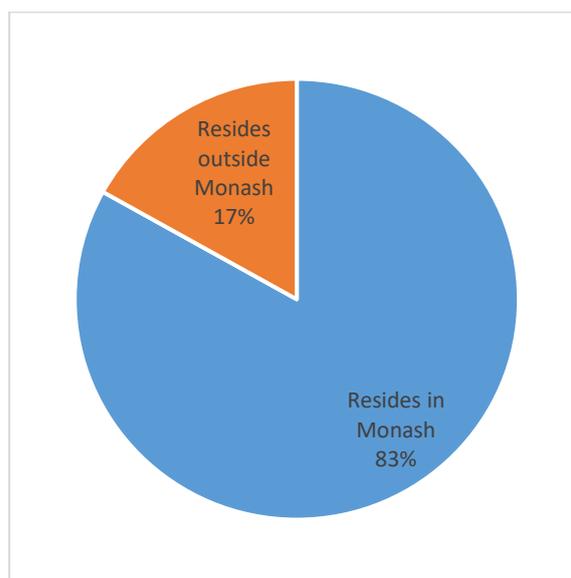
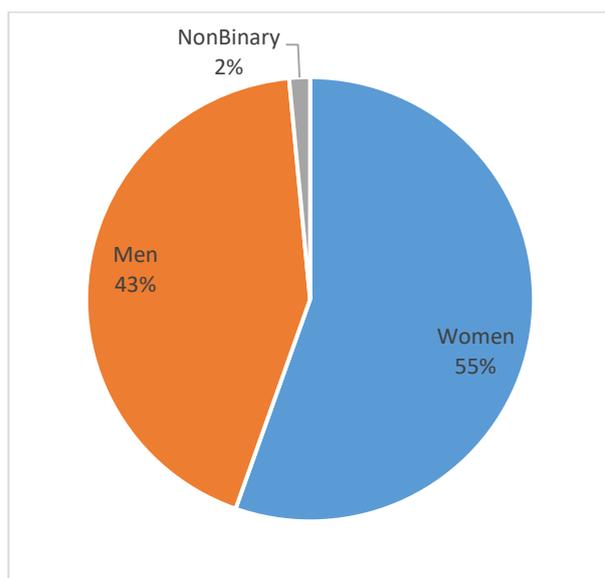
Number of respondents = 72

Respondent profile

Age group



Gender and Monash residents



Smokers

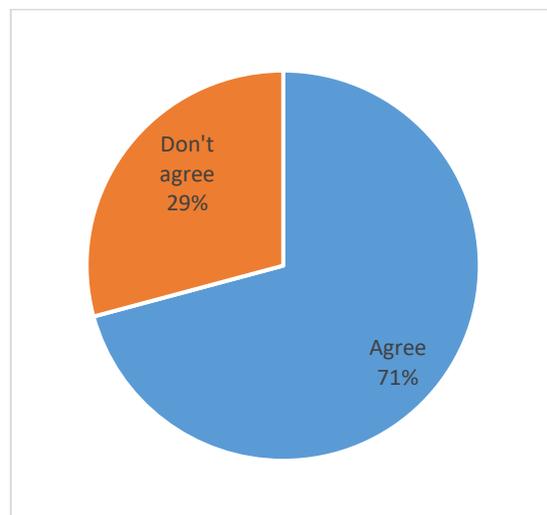
	Number
Smoker	7
Non-smoker	58
Not stated	7
Total	72



EATON MALL
PROPOSED SMOKE FREE ZONES

Q1. Do you agree with the size and extent of the smoke free area designated on the map?

	Number	Percent
Agree	51	71%
Don't agree	21	29%
Total	72	100



Q2. If not, what boundaries would you change, if any?

Among those that disagreed with the proposed boundaries, 15 participants provided a response:

Expanded boundaries:

- *Should be at the front of any eatery*
- *They should be expanded to cover the footpath adjacent to pedestrian crossings.*

- All
- stay at Eaton Mall and park and Library
- Extended to the car parks in the area where many people leave cigarette buds which get picked up by kids.
- Have it encompass the entire Oakleigh CBD precinct
- All

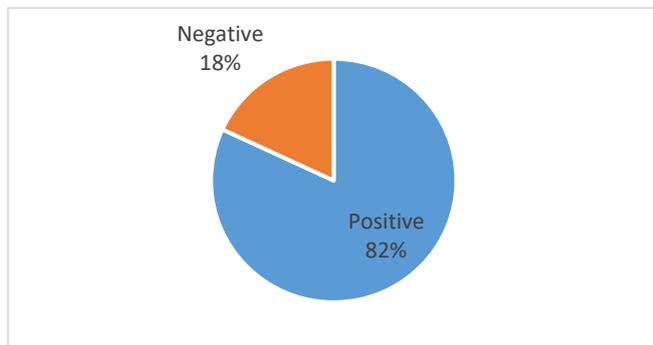
Reduced boundaries:

- Eaton Mall shouldn't be a smoke free zone
- Remove restrictions from Chester and Portman Sts
- None. There only limited areas that people can smoke that it can be discriminatory
- I would only have Eaton Mall only smoke free
- It's is way to large. Leave it the way it is
- Don't put the smoke free area in
- No boundaries! No Ban. This is discrimination to our community.
- I do not agree with any smoke free designated areas as proposed by Council.

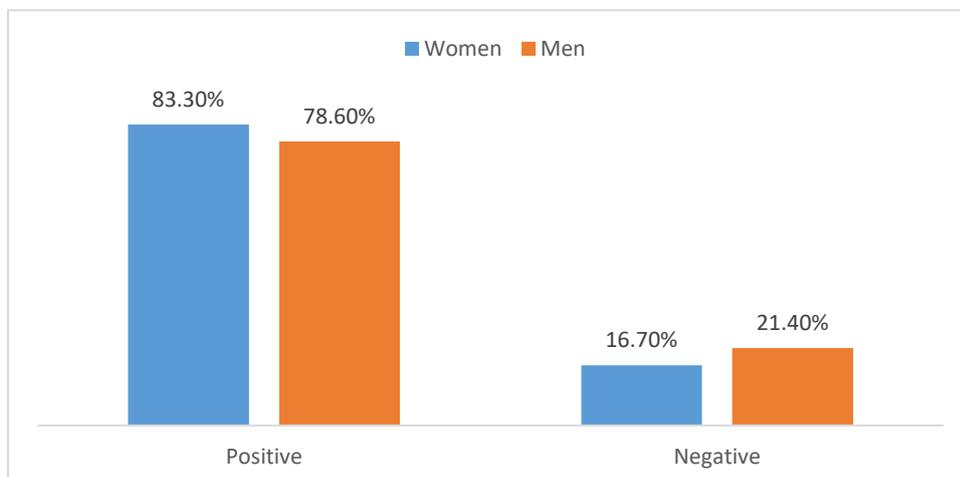
Seven of the comments indicate positive sentiment toward the proposal, suggesting expanded smoke free areas, and eight comments are negative toward the boundary. Positive sentiment is demonstrated by 78% of respondents.

Sentiment toward smoke-free boundaries in Eaton Mall:

	Number	Percent
Positive	59	82%
Negative	13	18%



Sentiment by gender



Q3. What is your connection to the area?

	Number	Percent
Run a business	2	3%
Member of public	65	90%
Not stated	5	7%
Total		100

Q4. Would you like to provide your views regarding benefits or detriment to the community that may arise from the proposal?

	Number	Percent
Yes	47	65%
No	25	35%
Total	72	100%

Q5. Please provide a short statement addressing any benefits or detriments to the community in relation to the proposal.

Statements were provided 47 respondents. There were 40 which addressed the benefits to the community and 9 that addressed detriments. Two respondents addressed both benefits and detriments. Benefits were seen to be on health (45%) and amenity (55%). Some examples of statements are included below. All statements are included in an Appendix.

Examples of statements addressing benefits to the community

- *A healthier environment for a popular area that is frequented by families and many children. Less litter.*
- *It is proven that passive smoking creates health issues. Smoking keeps me away from Eaton mall and cafes and restaurants in that area*
- *The benefit is that everyone can enjoy visiting Eaton Mall. The current non-smoking areas are not working depending on the direction of the wind.*

Examples of statement addressing detriments to the community

- *Creating 100% smoke free targeted DIRECTLY at the hospitality business that line Eaton Mall is going to destroy the neighbourhood. This is a uniquely European space frequented traditionally by those who smoke with their coffee. I do not disagree with smoke free entirely, I just feel that we need to strike a balance in this area which is not going to destroy the atmosphere and business - particularly at this time.*
- *Older smokers enjoy sitting in cafes at Eaton Mall where they can have a coffee and smoke in a designated area. Changing this would greatly reduce this demographic as there is nothing for them to enjoy. There are plenty of areas in Eaton Mall where people can sit and enjoy a meal without being disturbed by smoke. All areas where food is served are already non smoking.*

Appendix

Statements addressing benefits or detriments to the community

- 1. It is proven that passive smoking creates health issues. Smoking keeps me away from Eaton mall and cafes and restaurants in that area*
- 2. I walk through Eaton Mall almost daily with my 2 year old son. I'm frightened of the damage the second hand smoke is doing to his little body and my own. When I visit shops on Eaton Mall, such as the chemist, the whole shop stinks of cigarette smoke, particularly on the weekends. The smoke just blows straight in. As members of the community, we shouldn't have to be subjected to other people's poor choice to smoke. I've often avoided the area when it's busy for exactly this reason. In my opinion, there is zero benefit from allowing the area to be polluted with health damaging smoke. The only detriment would be that groups of smokers will most likely converge and group in pockets just outside the non smoking areas. This would pose its own problems of having to avoid large groups of smokers to even access Eaton Mall.*
- 3. Making smoke free will make the area more enjoyable for all & ensure safety for all.*
- 4. Older smokers enjoy sitting in cafes at Eaton Mall where they can have a coffee and smoke in a designated area. Changing this would greatly reduce this demographic as there is nothing for them to enjoy. There are plenty of areas in Eaton Mall where people can sit and enjoy a meal without being disturbed by smoke. All areas where food is served are already non smoking.*
- 5. I fully support the proposal. For too long smokers have been allowed to dominate Eaton Mall making it virtually unusable to other members of the public that don't want to put up with the chain smoking that takes place. My family and many other members of the community that I know don't visit Eaton Mall, and even avoid Oakleigh, because of the smoking. It's unfair that we aren't able to enjoy the great space that has been created by the Council so that a minority of predominantly older men can smoke. Thank you so much for putting this proposal forward. To me, it is clear the community does not want smokers to ruin the public spaces for them. It is a serious health concern, as well as all of the cigarette butts that are littered. I hope that in time the Council will go further than these two proposals and also extend this to other activity centres throughout Monash. Thank you*
- 6. The introduction of no smoking in Eaton Mall will encourage families to dine in this precinct*
- 7. Will take the family to Eaton Mall more often. Smoking has been off putting.*
- 8. A healthier environment for an popular area that is frequented by families and many children. Less litter.*
- 9. Smoking is detrimental to health and amenity. Businesses that want to cater to smokers can relocate to outside the smoke free zone. Pedestrians waiting to cross roads shouldn't be exposed to unpleasant and toxic smoke. Expand the zones to cover the footpath adjacent to these crossings.*
- 10. I am a local resident and currently avoid a large proportion of the businesses in Eaton Mall due to the amount of smoke I must walk through or sit near. Should this become a smoke-free zone, my family and I would be able to visit more cafes and restaurants.*
- 11. Whist I do not support smoking and in particular passive smoking, this is a unique community precinct that will in my view be severely impacted by this proposal. Clearly smoking inside the restaurant /food/ retail venues should continue to be prohibited but as the Mall is principally an outdoor area that has been promoted as a tourist destination (both locally and Internationally) such a proposal has the very real risk of destroying this unique area.*
- 12. I believe families will no longer be subjected to toxic smoke when walking through the area.*
- 13. I am delighted with the proposal to finally make Eaton mall smoke free so everyone can enjoy it. I have been waiting a very long time and was utterly disappointed in 2018 when loopholes allowed smoking to continue. Eaton mall is currently putrid- smoke filled and sickening. I have eaten*

indoors in both vanilla and nikos and the smoke comes straight in, contaminating the whole cafe. Smokers have made a choice to smoke but should no longer be allowed to inflict this choice on non smokers, who have no choice but to inhale second hand smoke. This is a violation of our rights and I am sick of it, I wish to come back to Eaton mall and enjoy food and drink without cigarettes. I am concerned for the health and well being of the staff in these cafes as well as toddlers and children whom I see being forced to sit in smoking areas- their health needs to be protected. Eaton mall will see a huge increase in business once smoking is banned. Please let us all enjoy this area in time for spring!

- 14. Every time I walk through Eaton mall I am appalled & angry having to breathe in nonstop smoke from one end to the other. I see parents with children in the smoking areas- how is this allowed? I feel sorry for all the workers there who are forced to breathe in second hand smoke all shift. I will never sit at any of the cafes there as I won't be able to taste my food for the smoke. The area is unsightly, smelly & urgently needs council to step in and ban smoking so everyone can enjoy it. Smokers need to understand that their smoking impacts the health of others and enjoyment of the mall. I firmly believe making the mall non smoking will see countless benefits, encouraging everyone to enjoy the delicious cafes there and creating much more business for owners there. Yes the smokers will still come to eat, but they will need to smoke where nearby diners are no longer affected. We've been waiting and hoping for too long, enough is enough- please clean up Eaton mall so everyone can enjoy it.*
- 15. This proposal would make the area more welcoming to the general public who do not smoke, and who don't want to be exposed to second hand smoke. This is also beneficial to those with asthma or other conditions who are more sensitive to smoke. I expect business owners, especially the cafe owners, will object but smoking in public is not a right - University and other locations that have banned it are prime examples of this. Thank you to council for proposing this ban*
- 16. Benefits: smoke-free environment but complete stoppage due to car fumes. Detriments: Blockages for smokers to walk through to other streets.*
- 17. I hate walking through this area and all these people are sitting around blowing same every where and dropping their filthy cigarette butts on the ground. It's disgusting.*
- 18. This change will open up Eaton mall to families to enjoy the outdoor spaces when the weather is nice.*
- 19. The health risks of active and passive smoking are widely documented and supported by overwhelming evidence. It is important for Monash Council to take this step for the benefit of all who visit the Eaton Mall area.*
- 20. I will comfortably able to dine outdoors in the area as well as be comfortable taking my children there without fear of them being exposed to smoke.*
- 21. Walking through Eaton mall & the surrounding streets is such a fantastic experience, however the amount of smoke you have to endure is horrendous. As an asthmatic, a pregnant person & a relative of those with cystic fibrosis it makes me wonder why we have to be subjected to smoke in public places. This would be a positive change for the health of our community.*
- 22. Please increase the smoke free areas outdoors where the whole community.. what are the detriment to the community from banning smoking? None! A lot of families visit Eaton Mall for meals throughout the day and we sometimes can not find a space where we can't smell smoking so we have to go somewhere else which impacts the local businesses. People will get used to it and smokers can reduce smoking and change their habits eventually.*
- 23. Reduction in risks associated with second hand smoke but may also encourage smokers to smoke less. I acknowledge certain businesses would feel they may lose business due to a large customer base who smoke however I would disagree - people will still visit business. This is a wonderful move to try and reduce harmful behaviours*

24. *Eaton Mall is a location dominated by outdoor dining and children's recreation areas. The Victorian Health Act prohibits smoking in, or within 4 m of, an outdoor dining area-pretty much all of Eaton Mall. The proposed legislation simply formalises this reality and removes scope for quibbling over where limits apply.*
25. *I frequent the proposed area as a customer of the many cafes and restaurants. The sheer volume of smoke billowing from the many there who care not for others welfare (let alone their own- which is their right) is astonishing. My asthma flares up and I have to find fresh air when trying to enjoy the area. Simply- smoking has been shown to cause innumerable health problems for 2nd hand smoke inhalers. Where someones right to smoke should not trump everyone else's right to a healthy life.*
26. *This is ABSOLUTELY necessary for the well-being of our community. In actual fact, my family and I have stopped dining/shopping within this precinct simply due to the fact that we need to inhale the ridiculous amount of passive smoke every time we walk through there. Especially as we walk our children down Eaton Mall to shop/done. It's ridiculous that it hasn't already been implemented, just like it is in every other shopping/dining precinct in the state!*
27. *Banning smoking in this area is a great idea. It's great for public health, for community amenity, and it's less anti-social than current behaviours of some users of the space*
28. *This area is overrun with smoking old men. It would be amazing to see this area become smoke free and more inviting for families, females and non smokers, which is what this area of Oakleigh is all about.*
29. *Our family enjoys walking through Eaton Mall in Oakleigh, and love eating at all of the restaurants and cafes. Unfortunately we are put off by the constant cigarette smoke and are unable and unwilling to eat in outdoor areas as a result. It is not suitable for our children to be exposed to the smoke due to the numerous health impacts it has, and my husband and I do not wish to be exposed ourselves. We agree with the plan to create a smoke free area in Eaton Mall.*
30. *As a mum with young children, at times I have avoided Eaton Mall restaurants due to the smoking area and small indoor dining spaces of some places. I will be better able to utilise these space if smoke free.*
31. *The health benefits of reducing smoking are self evident, and by reducing exposure to the general public and young children walking through the mall this benefit is reinforced. There is also the potential to change habits across generations, and bring the mall into line with other modern eating areas*
32. *As a non-smoker with mild asthma, I cannot stand eating outdoors with smokers congregating nearby. Until now I have been forced to eat indoors, and even then the cigarette smoke sometimes blow inside. However I understand that this will also adversely affect smokers, who may have to walk a fair distance to a designated smoking area. Have you considered the use of walled-off smoking stations such as those used in Japan and some airports?*
33. *Improved public health, well-being and amenity.*
34. *Creating 100% smoke free targeted DIRECTLY at the hospitality business that line Eaton Mall is going to destroy the neighbourhood. This is a uniquely European space frequented traditionally by those who smoke with their coffee. I do not disagree with smoke free entirely, I just feel that we need to strike a balance in this area which is not going to destroy the atmosphere and business - particularly at this time.*
35. *smokers have rights too... if they want to smoke while having a coffee whilst the non-smokers are being accomodated with screens etc then smokers have a right to smoke as well this is absolutely disgusting behaviour from a council or should i say dictatorship...we are in australia not a communist country"*
36. *By proposing a smoke free zone it would create more business as if you arent a smoker it would encourage you to visit these areas and not be surrounded by a thick cloud of smoke everytime*

37. *i totally agree with the non-smoking areas proposed, as it will improve the amenity for families/children to visit and improve the shopping areas*
38. *I will not sit anywhere since I do smoke. I will go into isolation since the morning coffee is the time I can see people. I will feel like a leper. It is degrading already since there is food everywhere so the spaces for smokers is minimal, in the cold and at times even time limited. Why don't you know this?*
39. *The benefit is that everyone can enjoy visiting Eaton Mall. The current non-smoking areas are not working depending on the direction of the wind.*
40. *I do not care if people want to smoke, however, I do care when I am seated in a cafe / restaurant or out in the street, and I am told by staff Halfway through a meal that I will have to move inside to complete the meal, because they have decided to extend the "smoking area", which has happened 2-3 times in Eaton Mall. It appears that the only customers they want are the smokers. Customers, Staff and management of these places disregard the law and do whatever they like, and do not advise smokers to move etc. I want to sit outside in summer to enjoy the sun and fresh air instead of breathing in cigarette fumes non stop. It has been a total joke from day one, a total disregard of the law and common sense, and common courtesy. I do not know how it will be policed as I do not believe it has ever been policed. If it is a safety concern to confront a customer, just keep fining the business and advertise it in the gazette or media. They might understand that. I hope the no smoking bans work.*
41. *The restaurants have their own regulation of when their smoking hours are. There are only a couple of businesses that allow smoking will lose a significant amount of customers who are not there to just eat or grab a takeaway but also smoke in their designated areas. Whilst it is important to ask the members what they think of this proposal, it is also important to ask the business owners and how they would be affected. They have relied on their takeaway businesses and regulars (mostly smokers) in these times. The most recent changes have already put on restrictions and strained flexibility in smoking, making businesses suffer. These restrictions will further revoke their rights to run their businesses the way they like. They already abide by the undercover, distance and eating rules in relation to smoking. The overall detriment is obvious to the community and the businesses who allow smoking in their premises. Non smokers are unaffected while it is unfair on the smokers.*
42. *There are sufficient smoke free areas within Eaton Mall. In fact, most of the mall is smoke free. Smokers are not to be made pariahs, we are a part of society, we pay rates. Society and local councils especially should be inclusive in their outlook and approach and this proposal doesn't cut the mustard. The cynic in me sees this as a cash grab by the council to then introduce licences for covered smoking areas. Prove me wrong please.*
43. *When visiting Oakleigh I find it is very uncomfortable to walk through smokers sitting at the tables. It is definitely a health hazard.*
44. *Smoking should be banned in all public areas. Trying to enjoy a meal and having smoke around you is not very nice. Medical evidence does show that smoking is harmful even to the people that inhale the air. Smokers should be considerate and understand that we don't have a choice but they do.*
45. *it is untenable that the general public can not walk, relax and dine in the Eaton Mall unless surrounded by cigarette smoke, it is smell and unhealthy. The Mall is dirty and the number of butts thrown in the Mall and surrounds is disgusting. The traders should realise that once smoking bans are adhered to people would use the Mall for relaxing and dining.*
46. *I rejoiced when smoke-free al fresco dining was announced: I could finally enjoy Nikos coffee and cake in Eaton Mall, amidst lively groups speaking Greek, without being choked by tobacco smoke. But when I arrived to have this experience, nothing had changed! Smoke continued to billow, and didn't stop when it reached tables for diners. This makes a mockery of the smoke-*

free law. And because of bans enforced elsewhere, smokers flock to Eaton Mall. I don't want this exposure because I have asthma and I dislike the smell. Other pedestrians are similarly exposed. As well, cafe staff are surrounded by second-hand smoke, with its known risks. I would think Council would be liable for the health impacts of this exposure. Please ban smoking completely within the shaded area. Get with the future! My friends and I will be far more likely to go to Eaton Mall. It will also help reduce the number of cigarettes smoked daily by smokers coming for coffee. Many thanks.

47. I frequent Eaton Mall from time to time for a meal or coffee. I cannot stand cigarette smoke. I would attend more frequently if there was a total ban on smoking in all public places where cafes/restaurants operate.