



21<sup>st</sup> April 2005

John Glen  
 Scottish Executive Health Department  
 Tobacco Control Division  
 3 E (R) St Andrews House  
 Regent Road  
 EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

**The Stafford Centre**

103 Broughton Street  
 Edinburgh EH1 3RZ

Tel: 0131 557 0718  
 Fax: 0131 478 7119

Dear Mr Glen

**ANNEX B  
 DRAFT: THE SMOKING, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005  
 (PROHIBITION OF SMOKING IN CERTAIN PREMISES) REGULATIONS 2005**

**RESPONSE TO Q.10 *Are there any premises which, taking into account humanitarian, practical or other considerations are omitted from the Exemptions List in Schedule 2?***

I enclose comments made by Stafford Centre users and signed by them in response to this question.

These comments express their views and concerns about the consequences of the centre (a day resource for people with mental health problems) becoming non smoking should Section 4(4) of the current bill become law.

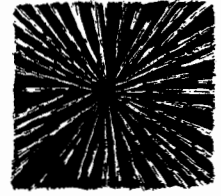
I would ask you to take these comments into consideration.

Yours sincerely

Nicola Moll  
 Stafford Centre Manager



Support and action for people affected by mental illness



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## Smoking Ban - Stafford Centre

**We, the undersigned, attend the  
*Stafford Mental Health Drop – in Centre*  
and wish to have the Centre exempted from the proposed  
smoking ban for the following reasons:**

The ban is on smoking in public places – we are not open to the general public;

In the consultative exercise which took place, it was not made clear that mental health projects like the Stafford Centre would be included;

The Stafford Centre has a smoking room fitted with a smoke extractor and staff are not generally required to enter the room when people are smoking;

Many – if not most of us – smoke. Banning smoking could lead to a substantial reduction in use and perhaps loss of the Centre, reducing further the already limited mental health resources available in Edinburgh;

Centre users who leave the building to smoke in the main street outside will be vulnerable; could lead to congestion on the pavement and inconvenience to passers - by;

Smokers with mental health problems will be further alienated and isolated, increasing social exclusion and leading to deterioration in mental health;

Smokers may suffer increased stress and irritability leading to aggressive behaviour and friction within the project – this is not in anyone's interest;

Psychiatric institutions and units have been exempted from the ban and for the above reasons we believe the Stafford Centre should also be exempted.

**Signed (see attached)  
Stafford Centre Users**

**6 April 2005**



Support and action for people affected by mental illness

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