

Policy position: Smoking in the arts

Purpose

This policy outlines Healthway's approach in relation to grant funding and the portrayal of smoking in arts productions.

Background

Healthway has a strong focus on creating a smoke-free Western Australia and the portrayal of smoking in arts productions where it is promoted as normal, acceptable or fashionable is inconsistent with the promotion of healthy lifestyles and Healthway's vision. As such, consistent with the best available evidence, Healthway adopts a precautionary approach to the portrayal of smoking in theatre and live performance events.

Policy approach

In grant applications and contract conditions, arts organisations will be required to confirm that productions or activities funded by Healthway will not depict smoking for the duration of the proposed agreement.

Healthway will consider the potential portrayal of smoking in performances or productions outside of the proposed agreement, and will assess the health promotion risk in consultation with the organisation.

For organisations wanting to seek an exemption or variation to the above approach, the organisation will be required to:

- Provide evidence for Healthway's consideration, that the portrayal of smoking is essential to the performance and/or its historical setting, and does not glamorise the behaviour.
- Where a variation is sought part-way through an existing contract, provide evidence that the organisation could not reasonably have been aware of, or controlled the content of the new performances at the time of the contract being signed, the new performance(s) meet(s) the criteria outlined above, and smoking will not be promoted or take place until Healthway has made a decision on the matter.

Definitions

Arts productions: A live performance, film and/or multi-media work, involving one or more art forms.

More information: healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au

Review: This policy will be reviewed in December 2021.

Last update: February 2020.