

 West Lothian Council	Environmental Health		SUBJECT: Smoke Control Areas/Wood burning stoves
		Food Safety/Food Hygiene	NUMBER: PH
REVISED: January 2010		Health & Safety	
	✓	Public Health	KEYWORDS:
STATUS: PUBLIC ADVICE		Pollution Control	SMOKE CONTROL
		Pest Control/Dog Warden	STOVE SOLID FUEL

Information Sheet PH Smoke Control Areas and Wood Burning Stoves

It is becoming increasingly popular for domestic households to install alternative heat and power sources into their homes. With a resultant increase in the installation of solid fuel burning stoves and open fires it is important to consider the possible implications of burning solid fuel.

Things to Consider

Before installing apparatus for burning solid fuel in your home you should consider the following;

- Whether your property is within a Smoke Control Area
- Nuisance from smoke which may be experienced by your neighbours
- Planning implications of any installation

Smoke Control Areas

Through legislation developed to deal with historic smogs in the UK, Smoke Control Areas have been introduced in many towns and cities to control the emission of smoke from domestic properties. Inside designated Smoke Control Areas it is an offence to emit smoke from a domestic property. In Smoke Control Areas it is also an offence to use “unauthorised fuel” unless it is used in an “exempt” appliance. Up to date lists of authorised fuels and exempt appliances (fireplaces/stoves) can be found via www.uksmokecontrolareas.co.uk.

The designated Smoke Control Area in West Lothian covers the greater Livingston area. A map detailing the extent of this area can be viewed via the West Lothian Council Website.

Nuisance from Smoke

You should consider whether installing any type of solid fuel burning apparatus in your home could cause nuisance to your neighbours from any smoke you produce. Consideration should be given to the design and positioning of flues and chimneys and to the type of fuel you will be burning.

Planning Implications

There may be planning implications with regard to the siting and design of flues and chimneys associated with appliances burning solid fuel. The Planning Department can be contacted on 01506 5222 or via the West Lothian Council website.

More Information

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Environmental Health on 01506 282500 or environmentalhealth@westlothian.gov.uk, and we will try to help.

Useful websites include:

- www.uksmokecontrolareas.co.uk
- www.westlothian.gov.uk