



**Jillian Skinner**  
Minister for Health

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Monday, 6 July 2015

### **OUTDOOR DINING AREAS NOW SMOKE-FREE IN NSW**

Smoking is banned in NSW commercial outdoor dining areas and within four metres of pedestrian access to cafes, licensed premises and restaurants from today.

Under amendments to the *Smoke-free Environment Act 2000*, smoking devices - including cigarettes, pipes and water pipes - are banned in seated outdoor dining areas while food is being served.

NSW Health inspectors have the power to issue on-the-spot fines of \$300 for individuals and penalties of up to \$5500 for business owners who ignore the ban.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is absolutely committed to protecting our community from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Since the start of 2013, smoking has been banned in NSW outdoor public places including all public transport stops and stations, within 10m of children’s playgrounds, at spectator areas of sporting grounds, at public swimming pools and within 4m of a pedestrian entrance to or exit from a public building.

“Today we go further, protecting outdoor diners and staff from second-hand smoke.”

NSW Health has worked with businesses to prepare them to support compliance.

“It is very pleasing that many businesses voluntarily banned smoking in their outdoor dining areas prior to today, with positive results,” Mrs Skinner said.

“When people are aware of the law, they generally comply and - judging by the high levels of compliance with existing smoking bans (98%) - we expect high levels of compliance with smoke-free outdoor dining.”

For further details call the Tobacco Information Line on 1800 357 412 or visit [www.health.nsw.gov.au/smokefree](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/smokefree)

To quit smoking, visit [www.iCanQuit.com.au](http://www.iCanQuit.com.au) or ring the Quitline on 13 78 48.