

# Smoking and Vaping

The dangers of breathing in second-hand smoke are well documented in humans, and studies have shown that the same danger extends to dogs who are exposed to second-hand smoke. There is also evidence emerging of the dangers of vaping around dogs, and therefore Canine Partners includes vaping within our advice.

Canine Partners do not allow any dog, of any age, to be within an enclosed space when someone is smoking or vaping.

When smoking outside, if possible, the dog should be able to move away from the smoker or vaper if they choose to do so.

## Can I open a window at home?

Opening a window or smoking in one room will not reduce the risk. There is evidence that smoke from a single cigarette can linger in a room for two and a half hours, even with an open window.

Third-hand smoke contains invisible but toxic gases and particles that cling to hair, clothing and carpets long after second-hand smoke has cleared. These toxins can be released back into the air or can transfer onto our dogs' coats and be ingested.

## What are the other risks?

Ingestion of cigarettes or smoking products can be fatal. This includes cigarettes, cigarette butts, nicotine patches and gum.

E-cigarettes pose a high risk as there is a high nicotine concentration in liquid form, which means the toxins will be absorbed more quickly. There are also reports of chemicals within e-cigarettes causing kidney injury. As e-cigarettes are often flavoured, they can be more attractive to dogs and so increase the risk of ingestion.

Canine Partners insist that any smoking products are always kept out of reach of dogs.

Any signs of nicotine poisoning should be reported to your treating veterinary surgeon immediately.



**Please contact your Canine Partners staff point of contact to discuss if you have any concerns about your canine partner, puppy or dog in training.**