

THE IMPACT OF NON-SMOKING AREAS ON LEVELS OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE IN UK PUBS AND BARS

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In the UK public houses generally allow smoking resulting in exposure of both customers and staff to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS). To address this, the UK Government and the hospitality industry have initiated the Public Places Charter (PPC), a voluntary agreement, to increase non-smoking facilities and provide better ventilation in public houses. 60 pubs within Greater Manchester were investigated in order to establish the effects of non-smoking areas on ETS concentrations. The ETS markers RSP, UVPM, FPM, SolPM and nicotine were sampled and analysed using established methodologies. Concentrations of ETS were significantly higher in the smoking areas compared to the non-smoking areas. Reductions in ETS particles in non-smoking areas varied between 30-50% whereas nicotine was reduced by approximately 65%. Concentrations in bar areas were similar to those of the smoking areas.