

Submission	Comments	Not allow new heaters	
1	<p>Folly to allow wood heaters in new homes</p> <p>Should be a priority to seek government funding to offer support to families to replace wood heaters with efficient heat pumps</p> <p>Lobby the Federal Government to create far more rigorous standards that reflect actual use, rather than perfect laboratory use</p>	Agree	
2	<p>Should not permit wood heaters being installed in new homes in our Region</p> <p>As a chronic asthmatic, the smoke from the wood heaters in town affects me somewhat severely every winter and I am continually wishing for warmer weather</p>	Agree	
3	<p>It is obvious that woodsmoke cannot be reduced in this town without action to actively remove woodfires and prohibit new wood burned in homes. Yet I see now that council regularly approves new wood heaters in this town, therefore adding more woodsmoke to the atmosphere. This practice should be stopped immediately</p> <p>Request that council takes immediate action to reduce woodsmoke in Armidale, including a prohibition on new wood heaters and support for people to remove existing heaters</p>	Agree	
4	<p>Council not demonstrating the commitment to this issue that it should. Council should take the most restrictive approach that it can</p> <p>It should limit new wood stoves to the cleanest possible replacement and take whatever measures it can to discourage their introduction, such a provision of relevant information on their risks.</p> <p>More generally, the Council should be doing more to proactively encourage and if necessary penalise those who do not burn cleanly and to encourage transition to non-polluting forms of heating</p>	Limit to cleanest possible replacements	
5	<p>Armidale has extreme air pollution on most winter nights - much higher than the WHO recommends</p> <p>Something like the Launceston program would help, and employing people to find the main polluters and provide them with information on how to minimize their pollution. Let's finally get on with it please - the health in our town continues to suffer</p>		
6	<p>Serious issue that council should do what it can to fix</p>		
7	<p>Reducing smoke pollution in Armidale from wood-burning heaters is very important. A stronger Council policy is needed as one part of the solution</p> <p>Policy should require that only the highest efficiency and least polluting heaters available - would prefer that the limit for ordinary heaters was less than 1.0 g/kg</p> <p>More should be done to get rid of wood heaters, stop lighting fires in the remaining fireplaces and to encourage people to both improve insulation and use other forms of heating efficiently</p> <p>Council should put more publicity and effort into raising community awareness so that few people want to buy wood heaters</p> <p>Council should not approve any solid fuel heaters in new, extended or substantially renovated homes within Armidale</p> <p>Council should be prepared to refuse to approve installation of solid fuel heaters where there is no demonstrated need for them</p> <p>Encourage you to work to resolve two problems as quickly as is reasonably possible - our air quality and our unsustainable use of logs and dead trees</p>	Limit to cleanest possible replacements	
8	<p>Multi-faced approach including restrictions on new wood heaters, incentives to switch to solar-powered air conditions and pore policing of wood sellers (to stop them selling wet wood)</p>	restrictions on new wood heaters	
9	<p>Armidale's reputation is tarnished by something that the local population and council directly influence</p> <p>Start with restrictions on the sale of wet wood for those reliant on wood heaters, then later include subsidies for air condition installation and a tax on the installation of new wood heaters</p>	tax on the installation of new wood heaters	

10	Wood heater industry body - wants status quo		
11	Council should strengthen its criteria for approval of new wood heaters and include only those whose testing has corroborated the safety claims around emissions and efficiency. Provides graph showing little or not relationship between real-life emissions and lab test results Please see an article which describes a case study in Launceston, their initiatives in this area and the results gained	Only allow new wood heaters where real-life emissions in line with lab tests	
12	Council should adopt a policy of refusing to approve any application for solid fuel heaters with emissions ratings over 0.3 or 0.4 g/kg, where the applicant has not obtained the consent of all nearby residents likely to be affected by the smoke, or where the applicant is not prepared to sign a declaration that if monitoring shows unhealthy levels of pollution due to the operation of the heater, the applicant will instead use non-polluting heating ARC should provide accurate information about the financial advantages of reverse cycle air conditioning over wood heating		
13	When council approves a new wood heater, it has a moral duty to devote whatever resources are required to ensure the health or lifestyle of nearby residents does not suffer.		
14	On the basis of information in your draft document, and the clear declaration that Armidale already suffers from serious winter air pollution, it would seem that any reasonable person would have justification in refusing the installation of any new air polluting wood fires. Indeed, to comply with item 3 under s68, council would seem to have an obligation to refuse all new installations that are likely to further pollute the sections of the Armidale airshed subject to PM2.5 or other pollutant exceedances, caused by existing wood fire appliances	Yes	
15	Very concerned about the effectiveness of the solid fuel heating policy. Submitted photos of neighbour's chimney. Has to close all doors in the evening, can't work in the garden when the fire is lit. Using an asthma puffer for emphysema so smoke exacerbates this condition Surely the health issues alone and the consequent drain on the Health System should be motivation enough to attempt to correct this		
16	Discusses the principles of ecologically sustainable development, protection of the environment, protection of public health and concludes that the draft policy does not comply with the principles set out in the preamble. Suggests a limit of 0.1 g/kg for all houses that currently don't have a wood heater and 0.4 or 0.5 g/kg for houses with a wood heater		
17	Regulate new wood heaters and restrict or prohibit use of existing ones		
18	Ban new and replacement wood heaters, give subsidies to home owners to transition from wood to other heating	Yes	
19	If you lack the capacity to legislate on this problem, perhaps the Council could subsidise air filters in all houses where people suffer from winter asthma and other lung problems, and particularly of pregnant women as the consequences to the foetus in the first trimester of woodsmoke is 'pretty dire'.		
20	Unless the pollution emitted from existing wood stoves can be reduced to a safe level, it would be unwise to permit the installation of new ones, which will only exacerbate the problem. Therefore I submit that no new wood heaters be permitted to be installed in Armidale until and unless woodsmoke emissions are significantly improved.	Yes, unless pollution from existing stoves can be reduced to a safe level	
21	The inconsiderate actions of an immediate neighbour, who allowed wood fire to smoulder from April to September each year, forced us to move to a rural area at some cost Clean air as important as clean drinking water and the question of litigation/class action must surely arise in time		

22	<p>Allowing "improved" wood heaters in new homes does not address the current dire problem, only contributes to it.</p> <p>The Policy sounds like an advertising campaign for the wood heater and firewood industry</p> <p>ironic that, despite the awareness that Armidale seriously need to increase its population and establish industries which support a productive, profitable economy, the Armidale Regional council is supporting policies which can only lead to residents leaving the town.</p>	Yes	
23	<p>Need to pay more attention to reducing woodsmoke emissions in Armidale</p> <p>State Government should have a larger role and subsidise electricity to persons living in valley towns with woodsmoke issues.</p> <p>Need an incentive to reduce wood fires</p> <p>New wood heaters need to produce less emissions</p>	New wood heaters need to produce less (real-life) emissions	