

Changes coming to anti-smoking law

Health Minister Dr Fenton Ferguson is expected to announce major changes to the newly implemented smoking ban in public when he addresses Parliament on Tuesday.

At a press briefing following the People's National Party's two-day National Executive Council meeting at the University of the West Indies today, general secretary Peter Bunting said the changes are come following a comprehensive report on the ban delivered by Ferguson.

Ferguson had already indicated there would be some adjustments to the penalties. But it is also expected that penalties for smoking marijuana will also come in for some attention.

The health minister has also reportedly given a commitment that the Public Health Act would be amended so that in future the regulations would require affirmative resolution of Parliament.

Bunting also noted that Ferguson reported that there has been a dramatic reduction of smoking in public spaces since the implementation of the Public Health Tobacco Control Regulations on July 15.