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4 November 2024

Eric Crampton

By email: eric.crampton@nzinitiative.org.nz
Ref: H2024053063

Tēnā koe Eric

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 4 October 2024 for information regarding Heated Tobacco Products (HTP) and Tobacco Excise loss. You requested:

*“I’m keen to see the workings underpinning the estimate of a potential \$216m loss in overall tobacco excise with half-rate excise on heated tobacco products
It would seem to require an enormous shift from smoked tobacco to heated tobacco.
Please supply those workings.”*

I have identified one document in scope of your request, titled ‘*Final draft Technical Report: Modelling the Fiscal Impact of Reducing the Excise Duty on Heated Tobacco Products*’. The document is attached to this letter and has been released to you with some information withheld under section 9(2)(k) of the Act, to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage. I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

It is important to note some information in the document requested has been withheld as its release might influence market behaviour, and thereby prejudice the Government’s 12-month evaluation of this policy. These redactions are limited to how the fiscal impact of the policy was derived and either preliminary fiscal impacts or those related to alternative policy settings.

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Rutherford', written in a cursive style.

Dean Rutherford
Deputy Director-General
Evidence Research and Innovation | Te Pou Whakamārama