

05 JUN 2019

Paddy Lewis

fyi-request-10270-67c881c4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: OIA 75237

Dear Mr Lewis

Official Information Act request: Communication with Phillip Morris or British American Tobacco representatives

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) of 8 May 2019 regarding communication with Phillip Morris or British American Tobacco representatives. Your request had been referred to me for response as your queries fall within my responsibilities as General Manager, Criminal Justice, Policy Group. Specifically, your request was for the following information:

- Any correspondence (including letters, emails, texts or memos) to or from Philip Morris or British American Tobacco representatives in relation to cannabis law or marijuana
- Minutes of any meeting held with Philip Morris or British American Tobacco representatives in relation to cannabis/marijuana or cannabis law reform
- Dates and times of any meeting held with Philip Morris or British American Tobacco representatives in relation to cannabis law or marijuana.

The information you have requested is not held by the Ministry because there has been no correspondence or meetings held with Philip Morris nor British American Tobacco representatives in relation to cannabis or cannabis law. Accordingly, I am refusing these parts of your request as allowed by section 18(e) of the Act.

If you require any further information, please contact Julia Goode, Acting Team Leader Media and External Relations on 021 636 416, or email media@justice.govt.nz. If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Brendan Gage

General Manager, Criminal Justice, Policy Group