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18 January 2024

Mr Corher

By email: fyi-request-24940-5b3a4050@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H2023033264

Tēnā koe Mr Corher

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 29 November 2023 for information regarding the repeal of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act 2022. You requested:

“... any correspondence or research you have conducted concerning future costs, related to things such as loss of life and healthcare spending, related to the rollback of the Smokefree Legislation.”

As of the date of your request, the Ministry had not conducted any work regarding the repeal of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act 2022. As such, your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is connected more closely with the functions of another agency subject to the Act.

The Ministry is currently working through the process of providing advice on this matter, which is being actively considered by Cabinet. It would be advisable to submit a new information request in the future. An appropriate time to submit a new request would be in April 2024.

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



Dr Andrew Old
Deputy Director-General
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui