

20 February 2019

Frazer Black

Email: fyi-request-9555-976483bc@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Black

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

We have received your request 10 February 2019, under the Official Information Act 1982.

Your request is as follows:

Is the Commission, or has the Commission in the past, considered action to ensure gambling elements in video games are compliant with New Zealand law?

In addition, please may I also request:

- * Any documentation related to gambling elements in video games (sometimes referred to as 'Loot Boxes'), including emails, meeting notes, formal and informal reports or recommendations.
- * Any documentation related to the recent law change in Belgium that restricted gambling elements in video games.

The Commission is neither currently considering, nor considered in the past, action to ensure that gambling elements in video games are compliant with New Zealand law.

The Gambling Commission's functions are set out at section 224 of the Gambling Act 2003 and do not extend to consideration of matters such as compliance of gambling elements in video games with New Zealand law. The Commission's function is mainly judicial, hearing applications relating to casino licences and appeals in relation to class 4 licences, and periodic levy reporting to Ministers.

The role of gambling compliance is undertaken by the Department of Internal Affairs ("DIA") which is operationally independent of the Commission. It is possible that the DIA has considered compliance of gambling elements in video games with New Zealand law. If you wish to make a request of DIA, please let me know and I will obtain the name of a suitable person to whom to direct your request.

For the sake of completeness (and for the reasons articulated in the paragraph above), the Commission does not have any documentation related to gambling elements in video games or related to the recent law change in Belgium.

Yours faithfully



Blair Cairncross

Executive Director Gambling Commission

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