

Hon Casey Costello

Minister of Customs
Minister for Seniors
Associate Minister of Health
Associate Minister of Immigration
Associate Minister of Police



1 November 2024

OIA-225

P Robins
fyi-request-28635-346546e1@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear P Robins

I acknowledge your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 3 October 2024, where you requested:

“... all communications between you and your office and any tobacco companies since your appointment as Minister. This request specifically includes, but is not limited to, communications with Philip Morris and British American Tobacco.

Please include all forms of communication, particularly electronic correspondence such as emails, text messages, and any direct messages sent via social media or other platforms.”

The information you have requested is attached to this letter. It has been necessary to withhold some information under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by freephone at 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a horizontal line that extends to the right and then loops back under the 'C'.

Hon Casey Costello
Associate Minister of Health

From: s 9(2)(a) @actumllc.com>
Date: Thu, 11 Jan 2024 at 01:19
Subject: Oral tobacco announcement
To: casey.costello@nzfirst.nz <casey.costello@nzfirst.nz>

Dear Minister Costello and team,

Congratulations on your portfolio and election win last year. My name is s 9(2)(a) for Actum, a global consultancy based in London and the US. My background is in Australian politics, s 9(2)(a)

I was reaching out as we work with a number of UK-based oral tobacco manufacturers who are interested in your recent announcement in reviewing the laws around smokeless tobacco products. I was wondering if there was someone in your office I could speak to about this in the next couple of days or early next week to get a sense on timelines, etc? The companies we represent would be interested in seeing if there were opportunities for them to bring their products to New Zealand under any potential legislative change.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Thanks,

s 9(2)(a)

Actum

STRATEGY EXECUTION OUTCOMES

s 9(2)(a)

From: Ripine Tito <Ripine.Tito@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2024 10:33 am
To: s 9(2)(a) @actumllc.com
Subject: s 9(2)(a) CCH0241 H2024035715
Attachments: 0377_001.pdf

Dear s 9(2)(a)

On behalf of Associate Minister of Health, Hon Casey Costello, please find attached a letter from the Minister to you.

Note that you may require PDF reading software to be installed on your device in order to open the attachment. You can download free PDF reading software at www.adobe.com/reader.

Kind Regards,

Office of Hon Casey Costello



Office of Hon Casey Costello

Minister of Customs | Minister for Seniors

Associate Minister of Health | Associate Minister of Immigration | Associate Minister of Police

2.062 PH, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

DDI: (04) 817 6827

E: c.costello@ministers.govt.nz

Hon Casey Costello

Minister of Customs
Minister for Seniors
Associate Minister of Health
Associate Minister of Immigration
Associate Minister of Police



s 9(2)(a)

02 APR 2024

Actum

s 9(2)(a) @actumllc.com

Ref. H2024035715

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your correspondence of 11 January 2023 regarding oral tobacco manufacturers based in the United Kingdom (UK). I appreciate you taking the time to write.

I acknowledge your request to discuss the review of policy settings in relation to smokeless tobacco products, and whether there is opportunity for the UK-based oral tobacco manufacturers that your firm represents to sell their products in New Zealand.

I am declining the request for further discussion with my office, as the New Zealand Government is a signatory to the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). Article 5.3 of the FCTC sets out an obligation that parties should interact with the tobacco industry only when and to the extent that is strictly necessary to enable them to effectively regulate the tobacco industry and tobacco products. Further information is available on the WHO website here:

fctc.who.int/publications/m/item/guidelines-for-implementation-of-article-5.3

The Government will decide and announce its policy direction in due course.

Thank you again for writing, and I wish you the best.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Costello', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hon Casey Costello
Associate Minister of Health