



NEW ZEALAND
CUSTOMS SERVICE
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA

AUCKLAND

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PROTECTING NEW ZEALAND'S BORDER

14 February 2019

Ref: OIA 19-026

Mr Dylan De Rungs

By Email: fyi-request-9314-29084115@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr De Rungs,

Request for Information Under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email to the Ministry for the Environment, which was transferred to the New Zealand Customs Service (Customs) on 1 February 2019, for a response. Your email has been treated as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested data relating to:

"...all info on where our waste is actually going namely, plastic bottles.

I am requesting the name(s) of all receivers of our plastic bottle waste in the year 2018 and,

How much they paid for them."

In response to your request, attached is an Excel spreadsheet covering the export of plastic waste and scrap for the 2018 year period. The spreadsheet provides the description of the goods, tariff description, country of destination, statistical unit and quantity, and the value of the goods exported. The overseas importer is not currently a searchable field so this information is refused as provided in section 18(f) of the Act, as the information cannot be made available without considerable collation or research.

By way of explanation when exporting goods, they are classified in accordance with the New Zealand Working Tariff document. Four tariff items under tariff heading 3915 cover waste and scrap plastic:

- 3915.10.00.00G polymers of ethylene
- 3915.20.0000L polymers of styrene
- 3915.30.00.00D polymers of vinyl chloride
- 3915.90.00.00F other plastics.

These tariff items cover all plastic waste and scrap. There is no tariff heading specifically relating to waste plastic bottles.

If you are dissatisfied with the information provided, you have the right to seek an investigation and review of the decision conveyed to you in this letter, by way of a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available online at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or you can phone 0800 802 602.

If you have any queries concerning this response, please contact the Correspondence, Reviews and Ministerial Services team, in the first instance via email crams@customs.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Morten". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathan Morten
Acting Group Manager, Border Operations