

7 February 2019

Mr Zane Collins
fyi-request-9417-23cbfd95@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H201900122

Dear Mr Collins

Response to your request for official information

I refer to your request of 17 January 2019 to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry), under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), for:

"Can you send me the source of the statistics which is on your website showing all studies/ researches / surveys or any other details how the below statistics were determined?"

"About 350 deaths per year are estimated to be from exposure to second-hand smoke in New Zealand."

The paper entitled *'How many deaths are caused by second hand cigarette smoke?'* by Alistair Woodward and Murray Laugesen is publicly available at the following link:
<https://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com/content/tobaccocontrol/10/4/383.full.pdf>.

For your reference, a more recent report produced in 2016 on second hand smoking can be found at the following link: www.ehinz.ac.nz/assets/Reports/Burden-of-disease-due-to-second-hand-smoke-for-publication-Final-2016-06-28.pdf.

As the information you have requested is already in the public domain, your request has been refused under section 18(d) of the Act.

I trust this information fulfils your request. You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse your request.

Please note this response (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Ministry's website.

Yours sincerely



Nick Allan
Manager OIA Services
Office of the Director-General