

Reference: 20240151

13 March 2024



Dear 

Thank you for your Official Information Act (OIA) request, received on 6 March 2024.
You requested:

- 1. I would like to make a request under the Official Information Act for copies of all records (including but not limited to letters, emails and minutes from meetings), between Minister of Finance, Nicola Willis and any representatives, associates or contacts with a direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry.*
- 2. I would like to make the same request for copies of all records (including but not limited to letters, emails and minutes from meetings), between Associate Minister of Finance, Minister for Infrastructure, Chris Bishop and any representatives, associates or contacts with a direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry.*
- 3. I would like to make the same request for copies of all records (including but not limited to letters, emails and minutes from meetings), between Associate Minister of Finance, Minister for Regional Development, Shane Jones and any representatives, associates or contacts with a direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry.*
- 4. I would like to make the same request for copies of all records (including but not limited to letters, emails and minutes from meetings), between Associate Minister of Finance, Minister for Regulation, David Seymour and any representatives, associates or contacts with a direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry.*
- 5. I would also like to make a request under the Official Information Act for:*
 - a) The annual tax take from tobacco related sources for each financial year from 2010 – 2023*
 - b) The annual tax take from tobacco related sources for each financial year from 2010 – 2023, as a percentage of the total tax take for that financial year*

Questions 1 - 4

The Treasury does not hold the information relating to questions 1 to 4 of your request. I believe this information is held by the following Ministers:

- Question 1: the Minister of Finance, Hon Nicola Willis,
- Question 2: the Associate Minister of Finance and Minister for infrastructure, Hon Chris Bishop,
- Question 3: the Associate Minister of Finance and Minister for Regional Development, Hon Shane Jones, and
- Question 4: the Associate Minister of Finance and Minister for Regulation, Hon David Seymour.

Accordingly, I have decided under section 14(b)(i) of the OIA to transfer these parts of your request to Hon Nicola Willis, Hon Chris Bishop, Hon Shane Jones and Hon David Seymour.

Question 5

The annual tax take from tobacco related sources for the 2010 to 2023 financial years is available in the Excel spreadsheet 'Tax Outturn Data Monthly History January 2024 Receipts from July 1990, revenue from July 1993' which is available on the Treasury website: <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/tax-outturn-data/tax-outturn-data-january-2024>. Please refer to row 23 'Customs and excise duty on tobacco products'. The percentage can be calculated using rows 23 and row 39 'total tax take'.

Accordingly, I have refused your request for this information under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Peter Gardiner
Manager, Forecasting