

22 February 2023

Dear

ATISN 17183 – Contacts in Tobacco Industry

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 20 February relating to contacts with tobacco industry. You requested the following:

For the period from 1 April 2021 to 20 February 2023:

A list of any and all contact your organisation and/or staff have had with British American Tobacco, Imperial Brands, Japan Tobacco International, Philip Morris International, as well as any other domestic or transnational tobacco companies or anyone representing the tobacco industry including subsidiaries of tobacco industry. Contact would primarily include attending or arranging meetings or functions and responding to correspondence or phone calls.

Please break down the information by:

- Tobacco company or representative's name*
- Date of contact(s)*
- Type of contact (meeting, email, letter, phone call, text/app message or video call, e-card or any other form of electronic communication)*
- Place of contact, if relevant*
- Purpose of contact*
- Outcome of contact, including if no action taken*

Response

The Welsh Government supports the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Article 5.3 of the convention states:

"In setting and implementing their public health policies with respect to tobacco control, Parties shall act to protect these policies from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry in accordance with national law".

For the time period requested, we have no contacts to report as per the request, other than the consultation responses outlined below.

During 2022, we issued a public consultation on our national tobacco strategy, [A Smoke Free Wales](#). The strategy was published on 26 July 2022. During the consultation, responses were received from three tobacco companies and one tobacco lobby group. These responses were documented as part of the consultation response, but their content was discounted from consideration when designing the strategy and associated delivery plan.

Next Steps

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in

accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response.

We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:
Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,