

Aide-Mémoire

Meeting with Dr Rachel Hart, Chief Executive, Cancer Society

Date due to MO: 26 February 2024 **Action required by:** 27 February 2024

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Health Report number:** H2024036531

To: Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Jane Chambers	Group Manager, Public Health Policy and Regulation, Public Health Agency – Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui	s 9(2)(a)
Emma Hindson	Manager, Ope Ōpiki, Public Health Policy and Regulation, Public Health Agency – Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui	s 9(2)(a)

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Date due: 26 February 2024

To: Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health

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Details of meeting:

Date: Tuesday 27 February 2024
Time: 3:30pm
Venue: Minister's Office 2.062PH, Parliament

**Purpose of meeting/
proposal:**

You have accepted an offer from Dr Rachel Hart, Chief Executive of the Cancer Society, to meet with you to discuss the repeal of provisions of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act 2022.

Comment:

Further points

- This aide-mémoire discloses all relevant information.
- Jane Chambers, Group Manager Public Health Policy and Regulation, is available to attend this meeting.



Jane Chambers
Group Manager, Public Health Policy and Regulation
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui

Meeting with Dr Rachel Hart, Chief Executive, Cancer Society

Background and context

- The Cancer Society is New Zealand's largest cancer-focused charity, that undertakes significant advocacy work, and funds sector research.
- Dr Rachel Hart, Chief Executive of the Cancer Society, wrote to you on 20 December 2023 to express disappointment with the Government's decision to repeal provisions of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act 2022 (the Amendment Act). Dr Hart requested a meeting with you to discuss this.
- In her email, Dr Hart included a 'briefing to the incoming Minister', which included a recommendation to fully implement the key measures of the Amendment Act, including monitoring, enforcing and evaluation.
- Dr Hart further wrote to you on 16 February 2024, requesting a meeting and expressing an interest in discussing opportunities to work towards the Smokefree 2025 goal.

Further information

- The Cancer Society has provided submissions to the Select Committee and the Ministry of Health in support of the measures included in the Amendment Act.
- The Cancer Society also facilitated the submissions of individuals during the consultation on these measures.
- Aside from supporting the measures proposed, submissions by the organisation itself were concerned with ensuring vaping regulations are further tightened, and that Māori communities receive sufficient, targeted support to quit smoking and vaping.
- Their submissions made a number of recommendations for further interventions, such as increased public health marketing campaigns, providing Government-funded quit vaping services, and introducing density restrictions for tobacco and vaping retailers.

Likely topics for discussion

- A challenge of the Government's decision to repeal provisions of the Amendment Act.
- New interventions to help the ongoing reduction in smoking rates.
- Changes to vaping regulations to reduce youth vaping.
- Dr Hart discusses in her letter to you how the Cancer Society is "embedded in our communities", and may offer to facilitate or take part in targeted consultation.

Talking Points

s 9(2)(g)(i)

PROACTIVELY RELEASED