

Aide-Mémoire

Meeting with Vape Free Kids NZ on 27 March 2024

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

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Health Report number:** H2024037499

To: Hon Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health

Consulted: Health New Zealand: Māori Health Authority:

Contact for telephone discussion

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

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Date due: 26 March 2024

To: Hon, Casey Costello, Associate Minister of Health

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Details of Date: 27 March 2024

meeting: Time: 1.00 - 1.30pm

Place: TBC

Purpose of meeting: You have accepted a request from Vape Free Kids NZ (VFK NZ) to meet on 27 March. The meeting will provide an opportunity for VFK NZ to share their insights concerning the impacts of youth vaping addiction.

- Background:**
- On 8 March 2024, the co-founders of VFK NZ, wrote to you to:
 - reiterate their desire to meet with you to discuss their concerns regarding the rise in youth vaping and consequences of youth vaping in New Zealand
 - inform you that VFK NZ had been granted a hearing with the Health Select committee on the 27 March 2024 to discuss their petition (attached as Appendix 1) presented to Parliament in August 2023, where all co-founders of VFK NZ will be in attendance
 - formally request a meeting with you on 27 March 2024 to discuss their views further.
 - The letter also noted:
 - they have valuable insights of the lived realities of parents, whānau, and teachers dealing with youth vaping to share with you
 - the several pieces of correspondence sent to you expressing their eagerness to meet with you since your appointment as Associate Minister of Health.

Attendees: Vape Free Kids NZ representatives

- Anna Stewart, Vape Free Kids NZ Co-Founder
- Charlotte Christie, Vape Free Kids NZ Co-Founder
- Charyl Robinson, Vape Free Kids NZ Co-Founder
- Marnie Wilton, Vape Free Kids NZ Co-Founder
- Tammy Downer, Vape Free Kids NZ Co-Founder

Official attending

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

About the Organisation:

- Vape-Free Kids NZ (VFK NZ) was established in June 2023 on Facebook and has a following of over 2000 members. VFK NZ has since developed into a national advocacy organisation and operate voluntarily. The group is made up of parents, whānau and community wanting to reduce the harms and impacts of youth vaping in New Zealand.
- VFK NZ's main objectives are to advocate for changes in national policy pertaining to youth vaping and for greater protections for youth from the harms of nicotine products.
- The VFK NZ have stated they are *"not anti-vaping as a smoking cessation tool."*

Comment: Petition to the Health Select Committee

- Vape-Free Kids NZ has been granted a hearing with the Health Select committee on the 10 April 2024 to discuss their petition (attached as Appendix 1).
- The Petition was signed by over 13,000 people and presented to Parliament in August 2023. The Petition requests urgent implementation of several measures to make vaping products less appealing, attractive, and accessible to young people, including banning the sale of vaping products in non-vape store premises.
- All co-founders of VFK NZ will be in attendance at the hearing.

Vape Free Kids NZ has criticized:

- the repeal of provisions of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990 (the Smokefree Act), particularly the repeal of retail reduction
- the ASH survey, which they point out excludes data that speaks to vaping rates of younger students (ie, students younger than 14–15 years-old, as the Year 10 survey is restricted to that age group).

Vape Free Kids NZ has expressed support for:

- the introduction of stronger legislation
- increased enforcement, education and support to protect children from the harms of vaping.

This aide-mémoire discloses all relevant information.



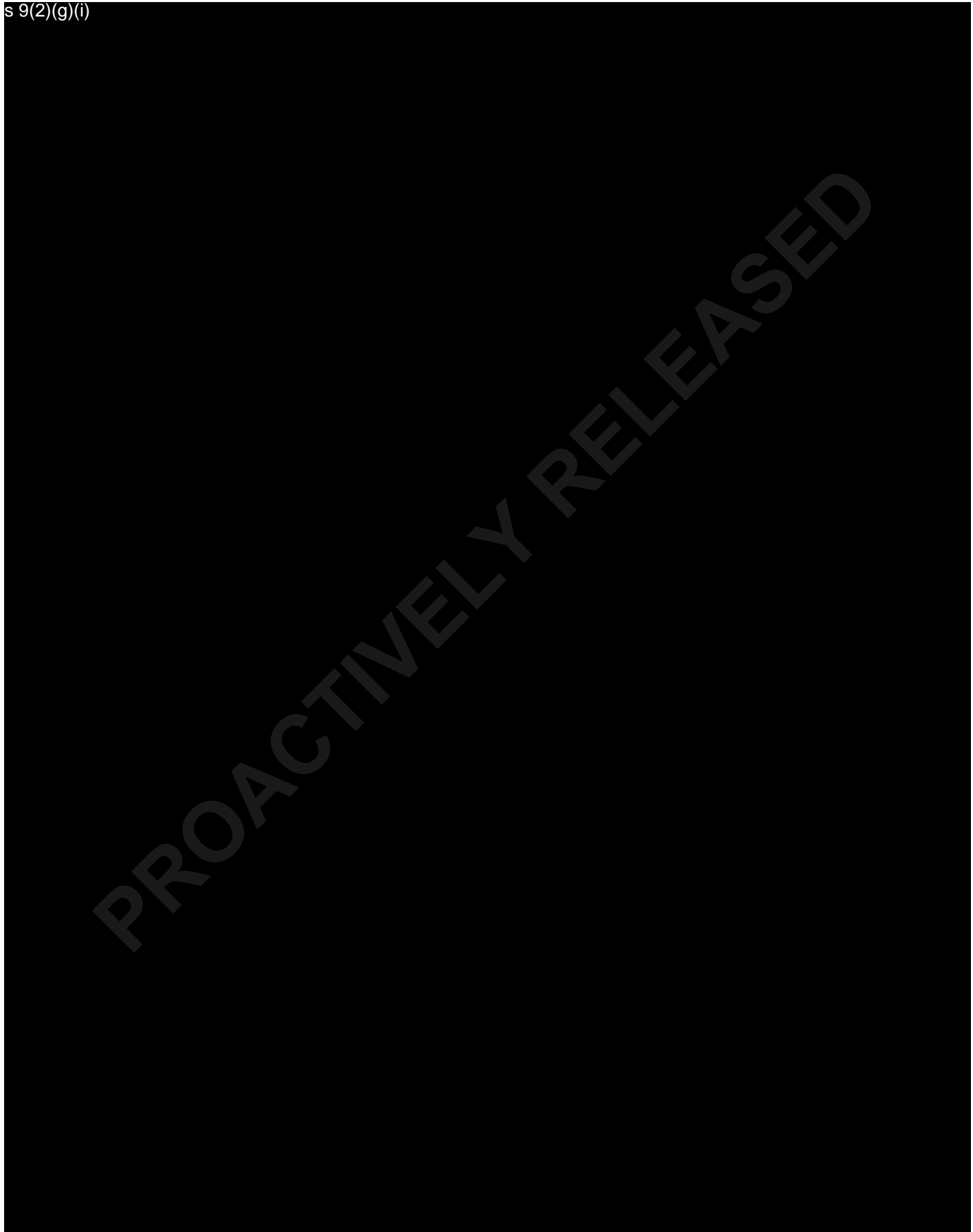
Jane Chambers
Group Manager, Public Health Policy and Regulation
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Talking points

Talking Points

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PROACTIVELY RELEASED