

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4841

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
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ME16 9QQ  
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

17 July 2018

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Tobacco companies.

*You asked:*

*I would like to request all correspondence between Trust staff or board members and:*

- *Philip Morris International*
- *British American Tobacco*
- *Japan Tobacco International*
- *Imperial Brands (formally Imperial Tobacco)*

*Between 11th July 2017 and 11th July 2018.*

Trust response:

The information requested is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 section 14(1) of the Act. Under Section 14(1) public authorities do not have to comply with vexatious requests. There is no public interest test.

Section 14(1) is designed to protect public authorities by allowing them to refuse any requests which have the potential to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation or distress.

Burden on the authority

The effort required to meet the request will be so grossly oppressive in terms of the strain on time and resources, that the authority cannot reasonably be expected to comply, no matter how legitimate the subject matter or valid the intentions of the requester.