

OC250077

11 February 2025

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

I refer to your email to the New Zealand Transport Agency dated 20 December 2024, which was partially transferred to the Ministry on 4 February 2025, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“NZTA technical specification for alcohol interlock equipment installed in vehicles”

Under the Land Transport Act 1998, the Minister of Transport, in consultation with the Science Minister, is responsible for approving alcohol interlock devices, by notice, for use in New Zealand.

To date, four alcohol interlock devices have been approved for use and the Ministry of Transport has led these approval processes. New Zealand does not have its own standard or technical specifications relating to alcohol interlock equipment installed in vehicles. The device approval process generally considers whether a device meets relevant international alcohol interlock standards, which are seen as appropriate evidence of quality (such as the European Standard for alcohol interlock devices (EN 50436)).

I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act as that information is not held by the Ministry. I note that NZTA will respond separately to the other parts of your request.

For further information on the approval of alcohol interlock devices, the Ministry has previously released briefings regarding the approval of new devices here (pages 8 – 19):

<https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/RequestFor31BriefingsFromApril2021-Part-1.pdf>

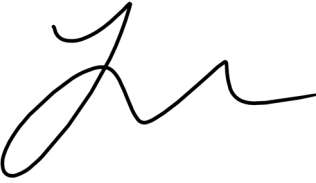
Devices that have received approval can be found in the Land Transport (Alcohol Interlock Devices) Notice 2012 here:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2012/0215/latest/DLM4628306.html>

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman’s website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry's website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Heard', written in a cursive style.

Joanna Heard
Manager, Safety