

From: [Attride-Stirling, Jennifer](#)
To: [Adams, Jache A.](#)
Subject: RE: Figures Re: The Smoke Shop
Date: Tuesday, December 20, 2022 9:14:00 AM
Attachments: [Archived](#)

Jache – I'm assuming this is in your hands for the time being, right?
Let me know if you need any action from me.

j

From: [Attride-Stirling, Jennifer](#)
To: [Amos, J. Richard](#); [Adams, Jache A.](#)
Subject: RE: Tobacco Imports - The Smoke Shop
Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 8:16:00 AM
Attachments: [Archived](#)

Thanks very much, Richard.

J

From: Amos, J. Richard <jamos@gov.bm>
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Adams, Jache A. <jaadams@gov.bm>; Attride-Stirling, Jennifer <attridestirling@gov.bm>
Subject: Tobacco Imports - The Smoke Shop

Good afternoon Mr. Adams,

Further to our meeting this afternoon, I attach a work sheet showing imports made by

PTL

Regards,



Richard Amos
Assistant Collector of Customs
Government of Bermuda | Customs Department
Custom House | 131 Front Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

Direct Telephone: 441 278 7405 | Cell: 441 525 0125 | Email: ramos@gov.bm
Customs Department direct line: 441 295 4816
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Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Amos, J. Richard
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 4:43 PM
To: Attridge-Stirling, Jennifer
Cc: Durham, Hasan
Subject: CPC 4238 - Tobacco for local commercial manufacturing of tobacco products
Attachments: Instructions_CTAB_2021.docx; Annex C - Illustration of new CPC 4238.docx

Good afternoon CDFA,

Here are the drafting instructions (and Annex C) on the Customs Tariff Amendment Bill 2021. Please note that the rate for the new CPC 4238 had not yet been decided by the Minister at the time of submission to AG (see square brackets on p3 and in Annex C). The Bill as tabled is also attached.

I will send the Ministerial statement and clause notes in a separate email.

Kind regards,



Richard Amos

Assistant Collector of Customs
Government of Bermuda | **Customs Department**
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Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Amos, J. Richard
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 7:01 PM
To: Attride-Stirling, Jennifer
Subject: Fwd: Royal Gazette questions

Dear Jennifer

Here are my answers to the RG questions.

R

Q. We understand that there was temporary tax break on tobacco products recently.

A. There is an extant end-use duty relief for tobacco for local commercial manufacturing of tobacco products – CPC 4238 of the Fifth Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act 1970 . The concessionary duty rate under CPC 4238 is currently \$105.00 per kilogramme. On 1 April 2021, the Minister of Finance designated The Smoke Shop Ltd. as an approved business under CPC 4238 for a six months period from 1 April 2021 to 30th September 2021. Refer to the Customs Tariff (Approved Businesses - CPC 4238) Notice 2021 (BR41/2021).

Q. One importer (we understand it to be Mr Michael Heslop, who owns The Smoke Shop) shipped in \$40 million of tobabcco (sic), saving himself about \$16 million in duty and fees. Can you confirm the above.

A. Customs cannot confirm the above. The figures cited are incorrect. During the time that The Smoke Shop Ltd. was an approved business under CPC 4238 that company imported tobacco with a customs value of \$244,867.20. The unrealized duty revenue totalled \$11,868,420.80.

Q. We also understand that the Minister of Finance is now trying to get this back. Can you confirm any of the above and if so, under what grounds is the Minister trying to get this money back?

A. Customs is not aware of any plans for the Minister of Finance to recover any unrealized revenue due to the CPC 4238 concessionary rate. There are no grounds for recovering duty lawfully relieved under statute.

Q. Have legal proceedings started?

A. Customs is not aware of any legal proceedings relating to The Smoke Shop and their claims for duty relief.

Best regards,



Richard Amos

Assistant Collector of Customs

Government of Bermuda | **Customs Department**

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From: [Attride-Stirling, Jennifer](#)
To: [Amos, J. Richard](#)
Cc: [Lema, Dean N.](#); [Pearman, Lucinda](#)
Subject: RE: The Smoke Shop - Tobacco
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2022 4:43:00 PM
Attachments: [Archived](#)

Ah, ok, if this is something Customs supports, then I suggest to seek the Premier's approval through the memorandum mechanism we are developing and discussing tomorrow.

I have a standard decision brief (attached) which we can adapt for this purpose, instead of the previous draft if it helps. We can consider this template as an alternative tomorrow.

j

From: Amos, J. Richard <jamos@gov.bm>
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2022 3:46 PM
To: Attride-Stirling, Jennifer <attridestirling@gov.bm>
Cc: Lema, Dean N. <dlema@gov.bm>; Pearman, Lucinda <lpearman@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: The Smoke Shop - Tobacco

Good day CDFA,

Parity among tobacco importers is very likely to cause local manufacturing of tobacco products to cease resulting in job losses. I am aware of only one cigarette manufacturer in Bermuda at the moment. All the rest are importing finished product.

manufacture locally. Customs supports the request on the basis benefit to the local economy and encourages business competition. However, Customs would prefer to have an excise duty on production rather than a continuation of the concessionary duty rate. Hasan and I had been examining this possibility.

The original idea was to support small and medium size business (Throne Speech pledges) and to encourage local small scale manufacturing for job creation purposes. CPCs 4229, 4237 and 4238 were created for these purposes.

I look forward to our meeting.

Kind regards,

Richard Amos

Assistant Collector of Customs

Government of Bermuda | Customs Department

Custom House | 131 Front Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

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From: Attride-Stirling, Jennifer

Sent: 29 November 2022 14:54

To: Amos, J. Richard <jamos@gov.bm>

Cc: Lema, Dean N. <dlema@gov.bm>; Pearman, Lucinda <lpearman@gov.bm>

Subject: RE: The Smoke Shop - Tobacco

Good day, Richard

I'm not aware of any decisions being made on this matter and I'm confident you would have known if a decision had been taken.

I take note of the statement in your email to Ryan of 8 Sept 22, 13.08:

The Customs Tariff (Approved Businesses - CPC 4238) Notice 2021 has not been amended in any way

Unless Customs wishes to recommend a renewal of the concessionary rate, or Customs supports an amendment per Hassan's July recommendation, my view would be to retain the status quo in order to ensure parity among tobacco importers.

I'd be happy to discuss when we meet tomorrow, if needed.

Jennifer

From: Amos, J. Richard <jamos@gov.bm>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 3:47 PM
To: Attridge-Stirling, Jennifer <attridestirling@gov.bm>
Cc: Lema, Dean N. <dlema@gov.bm>; Pearman, Lucinda <lpearman@gov.bm>
Subject: FW: The Smoke Shop - Tobacco

Good afternoon CDFA,

I refer to the enquiry below from the

The attached document also refers.

Beginning in mid-February this year Mr. Durham and I had worked together on a potential solution to taxation of local tobacco manufacturing. Mr. Durham produced the attached draft document. I have since responded to enquiries from Policy Consultant Ryan Robinson Perinchief (I will forward in a separate email); however I do not know what decisions, if any, have been made at Ministry level.

What am I to say
concessionary duty rate?

Kind regards,

Richard Amos

Assistant Collector of Customs

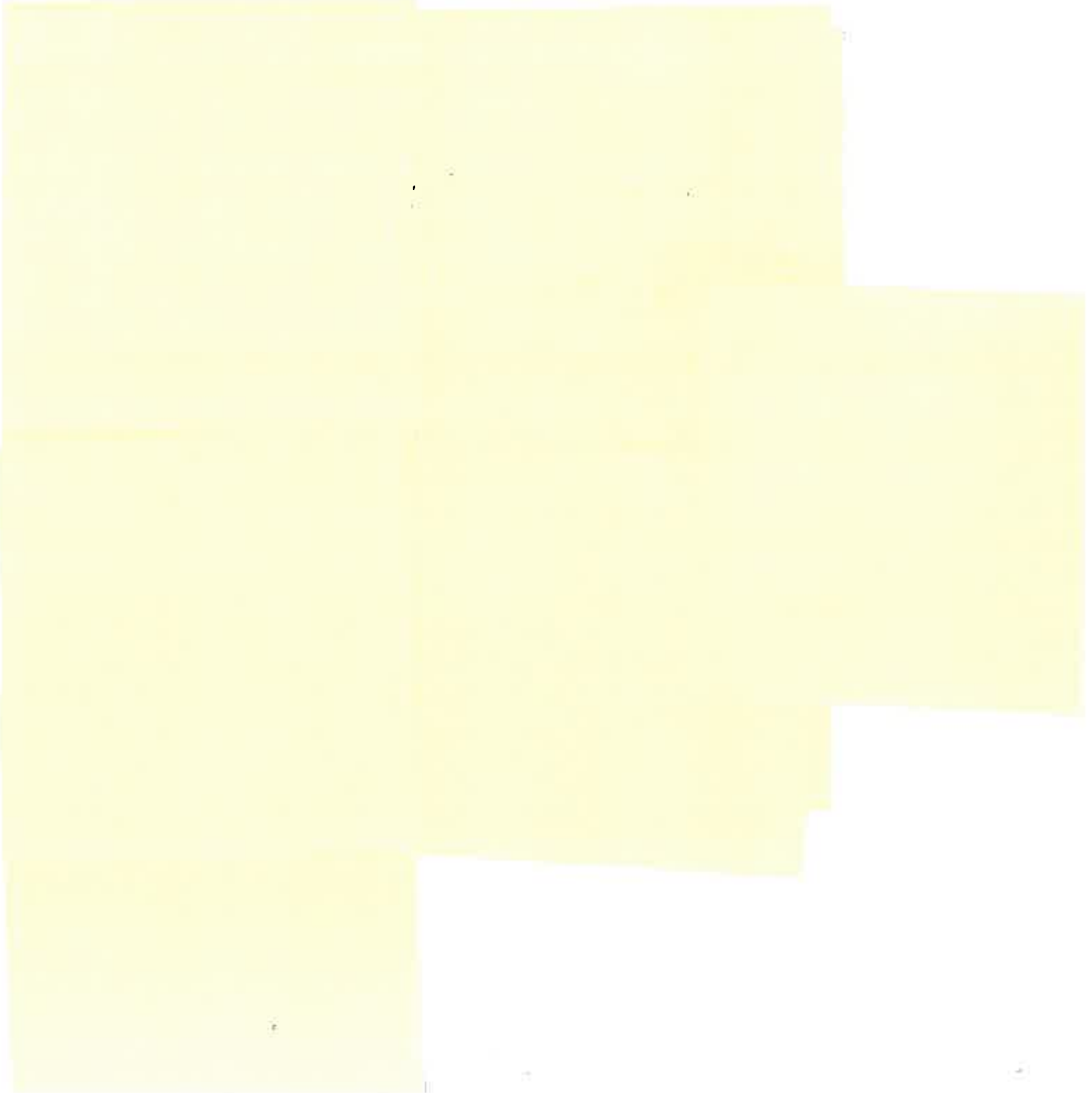
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1-441-296-2466 (w)

1-441-591-2252 (m)

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Amos, J. Richard
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 3:47 PM
To: Attride-Stirling, Jennifer
Cc: Lema, Dean N.; Pearman, Lucinda
Subject: FW: The Smoke Shop - Tobacco
Attachments: Note to Minister (Smoke Shop-Tobacco Per Cigarette Importation Rate) 26 July 22.docx

Good afternoon CDFA,

I refer to the enquiry below from the

attached document also refers.

Beginning in mid-February this year Mr. Durham and I had worked together on a potential solution to taxation of local tobacco manufacturing. Mr. Durham produced the attached draft document. I have since responded to enquiries from Policy Consultant Ryan Robinson Perinchief (I will forward in a separate email); however I do not know what decisions, if any, have been made at Ministry level.

What am I to say to
concessionary duty rate?

access to the

Kind regards,



Richard Amos
Assistant Collector of Customs
Government of Bermuda | Customs Department
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From: [redacted]@thesmokeshop.bm]
Sent: 28 November 2022 14:24
To: Amos, J. Richard <jamos@gov.bm>
Subject: The Smoke Shop - Tobacco

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 10:06 PM
To: Lister, Cheryl
Cc: Adams, Jache A.
Subject: FW: Smoke Shop - Tobacco for local manufacturing of tobacco products
Attachments: 2022 Epenses List RLC.pdf

Good Night,

Below is information to support the recommendation sent earlier.

Hasan

From: Amos, J. Richard
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 7:36 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Subject: FW: Smoke Shop - Tobacco for local manufacturing of tobacco products

Good evening Mr. Durham,

Here is the response from The Smoke Shop.

Kind regards,



Richard Amos

Assistant Collector of Customs
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Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:46 PM
To: Lister, Cheryl
Cc: Adams, Jache A.
Subject: RE: Tobacco Matters

Hello,

I have a meeting with Mr. Amos tomorrow at 12:00pm.

Hasan

From: Lister, Cheryl
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 7:23 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Cc: Adams, Jache A. <jaadams@gov.bm>
Subject: Re: Tobacco Matters

Jache and Hasan

Has a meeting time been agreed to discuss this with the Premier tomorrow?

Sent from my iPhone

On 9 May 2022, at 6:44 PM, Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm> wrote:

Noted

From: Adams, Jache A.
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 5:43 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Cc: Lister, Cheryl <clister@gov.bm>
Subject: Tobacco Matters

Hi Hasan,

As discussed, given the circumstances, the Premier is urgently requesting a policy proposal by Thursday regarding the tobacco matters

Best,



Jache Adams

Advisor to the Minister of Finance
Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**
30 Parliament Street, 2nd Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

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GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

The Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Finance Headquarters

Ministerial Brief

To the House of Assembly

by

The Hon. Curtis L. Dickinson, JP MP

Minister of Finance

“CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT ACT 2021”

Date: March 19th, 2021

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members are requested now to give consideration to the Bill entitled “Customs Tariff Amendment Act 2021”.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill proposes to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1970 (“the principal Act”) with measures that –

1. introduce certain new end-use duty reliefs; and
2. reform selected existing end-use duty reliefs.

The measures of the Bill affect the Fifth Schedule to the principal Act, and make consequential changes to certain outlying statutory instruments.

Mr. Speaker, In the 2021 – 2022 Budget Statement in support of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, the Government promised that we will through legislation and regulation, create an environment that encourages innovation, entrepreneurs, businesses, and start-ups.

Mr. Speaker, in partial fulfillment of that promise, this Bill proposes to introduce both new and amended end-use relief that affords zero and concessionary rates of duty for approved businesses.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill proposes to introduce new end-use CPC 4237 providing 100% duty relief for goods imported for and used wholly and exclusively for business purposes by an approved business. Under this new business end-use relief the Minister will have enhanced authority and flexibility to approve appropriate businesses and goods for import duty relief.

This new relief requires the Minister to publish policy guidelines on the approval of the scope and quantity of goods for any particular approved business. The policy guidelines will be published on the Government Portal.

Mr. Speaker, The policy guidelines will provide that the Minister will decide the description and quantity to be approved in any approved business notice made under new CPC 4237 on a case by case basis, and in accordance with the following policy criteria:

1. The Minister will only approve businesses and goods where he is satisfied the business undertaking in question is of sufficient benefit to the general economy of Bermuda or the balance of payments (exports of locally manufactured goods).
2. The goods must be appropriate to the relevant approved business.
3. Approved goods may include—
 - a) raw materials
 - b) mixtures or combinations of materials or substances
 - c) finished goods (whether or not presented unassembled or disassembled)
 - d) incomplete or unfinished goods
 - e) composite goods consisting of different materials or made up of different components or modular parts
4. The quantity of approved goods may take account of normal wastage in processing, construction or installation; damage; natural deterioration; wear and tear; or obsolescence.

5. In deciding the grant or scope of relief, the Minister may take account of —

- a) other available or granted drawbacks, exemptions, reliefs, remissions and concessions.
- b) other assistance received from Government or other organizations, such as grants, duty deferments or Bermuda Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) loans.
- c) the need for relief in any particular case, bearing in mind the existing level of capitalization of any particular business.
- d) the uniqueness of the approved business, with a view to encouraging appropriate diversification of local business undertakings.
- e) the suitability of the business, with a view to encouraging undertakings that are not deleterious or harmful to Bermuda's reputation, culture and ethos.

6. The Minister may tailor the scope of relief to address any potential mischief such as the unwanted or unintended effect of any special duty rate.

7. The Minister will treat applications from similar businesses equitably so as to avoid trade distortion, subject nevertheless to the foregoing criteria.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill also proposes to introduce new end-use CPC 4238 with a concessionary duty rate of \$105 per kilogramme for loose-leaf tobacco imported for use in the local commercial manufacture of tobacco products. The normal duty rate for loose leaf tobacco is \$500 per kilogramme. The concessionary rate is intended to assist local commercial manufacturers of cigarettes and cigars to maintain competitive pricing of their products in relation to imported cigarettes and cigars, and thereby continue to employ Bermudian workers in local manufactories.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill further proposes to amend existing CPC 4229 (Goods for local commercial manufacturing) to allow local manufacturers of tobacco products and fermented alcoholic beverages (such as beer) to be designated as approved businesses and benefit from the 5% concessionary rate in respect of goods such as manufacturing machinery, equipment and tools. CPC 4229 currently provides duty relief for goods for local commercial manufacturing, but unhelpfully excludes the manufacturing of tobacco and alcohol products.

Mr. Speaker, I now turn to the proposed reform of selected existing end-use reliefs.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill proposes to repeal and replace existing end-use CPC 4110 (School equipment, stationery and educational supplies) with a new CPC 4110 (Goods for educational institutions). The existing

CPC 4110 is currently unhelpfully restricted to registered schools only and to a limited scope of qualifying goods.

Under this new education end-use relief the Minister will have enhanced authority and flexibility to approve any appropriate educational, training or developmental institution for import duty relief. The Minister will also be able to tailor the scope of qualifying goods in any particular case.

This new relief requires the Minister to publish policy guidelines on the approval of the scope and quantity of goods for any particular approved institution. The policy guidelines will be published on the Government Portal.

Mr. Speaker, Those policy guidelines will provide that the Minister will decide the description and quantity of goods to be approved in any approved institution notice made under CPC 4110 on a case by case basis, and in accordance with the following policy criteria:

1. The description of goods approved must be appropriate to the particular objects and purposes of the relevant approved institution.
2. Approved goods may include—
 - a) raw materials
 - b) mixtures or combinations of materials or substances
 - c) finished goods (whether or not presented unassembled or disassembled)

- d) incomplete or unfinished goods
- e) composite goods consisting of different materials or made up of different components or modular parts.

3. The Minister will only approve goods where he is satisfied that they will be of sufficient benefit to those enrolled in an approved institution.

4. Approved goods must be in a quantity appropriate to the physical size, enrollment numbers and nature of the relevant approved institution.

5. The quantity of approved goods may take account of normal wastage in processing, construction or installation; damage; natural deterioration; wear and tear; or obsolescence.

6. In deciding the scope of relief, the Minister may take account of —

- a) other available or granted drawbacks, exemptions, reliefs, remissions and concessions
- b) other assistance received from Government or other organizations, such as grants, duty deferments or Bermuda Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) loans

c) the need for relief in any particular case, bearing in mind the existing sources and level of funding of any particular approved institution.

7. The Minister may tailor the scope of relief to address any potential mischief such as the unwanted or unintended effect of any special duty rate.

8. The Minister will treat applications from similar institutions equitably, subject nevertheless to the foregoing criteria.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill proposes to amend existing CPC 4140 (Goods for youth organizations) to remove the specific reference to St John Ambulance Brigade, whose relief is covered elsewhere. The Bill also proposes to relax the End-Use Conditions/Restrictions to permit the reasonable use-in-common of qualifying goods by persons other than approved organizations.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill proposes to introduce new end-use CPC 4236 that consolidates and rationalizes existing duty relief for certain international organizations. The structure of the new relief helpfully affords the Minister discretion to extend duty relief to such other international organizations as may be expedient from time to time.

This new relief requires the Minister to publish policy guidelines on the approval of the scope and quantity of goods for any particular approved institution. The policy guidelines will be published on the Government Portal.

Mr. Speaker, Those policy guidelines will provide that the Minister will decide the description and quantity of goods to be approved in any approved organization notice made under CPC 4236 on a case by case basis, and in accordance with the following policy criteria:

1. The description of goods approved must be appropriate to the particular mission of the relevant approved organization.
2. Approved goods may include—
 - a) raw materials
 - b) mixtures or combinations of materials or substances
 - c) finished goods (whether or not presented unassembled or disassembled)
 - d) incomplete or unfinished goods
 - e) composite goods consisting of different materials or made up of different components or modular parts
3. Approved goods must be in a quantity appropriate to the scale of activities of the relevant approved organization in Bermuda.
4. The quantity of approved goods may take account of normal wastage in processing, construction or installation; damage; natural deterioration; wear and tear; or obsolescence.
5. In deciding the grant or scope of relief, the Minister may take account of —

- a) other available or granted drawbacks, exemptions, reliefs, remissions and concessions.
- b) other assistance received from Government or other organizations, such as grants or duty deferments.

6. The Minister may tailor the scope of relief to address any potential mischief such as the unwanted or unintended effect of any special duty rate.

7. The Minister will treat similar organizations equitably, subject nevertheless to the foregoing criteria.

Mr. Speaker, The Bill also proposes to introduce a new end-use CPC 4239 for goods for NASA Space Flight Temporary Mobile Tracking Station. Currently the NASA Station enjoys temporary importation relief under CPC 5033; however, it transpires that NASA has need to keep certain goods for the Station in Bermuda for longer than the statutory six period of importation. The introduction of this new end-use relief is done to perfect the range of duty relief afforded for the NASA Station in accordance with the agreement between NASA and the Government of Bermuda (Agreement Between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the Government of the United States of America and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Government of Bermuda for a Space Flight Temporary Mobile Tracking Station, dated March 7 2012).

Mr. Speaker, I should mention that amended CPC 4110 and new CPCs 4236-4238 will require the Minister of Finance to make notices to approve the institutions, organizations and businesses that are to be eligible for the end use relief and to approve the applicable description and quantity of qualifying goods in each case. Such notices do not form part of this Bill, but will be done by Notice in the Official Gazette.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to its principal measures, the Bill proposes to make certain other consequential revocations and repeals. It also makes clarifying amendments to the title of four existing Customs Tariff approval notices to specify the particular CPC codes to which they relate.

I will comment in further detail on the principal changes and all other measures of the Bill in Committee.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A BILL

entitled

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT ACT 2021

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1970, and to make consequential and connected provision;

Be it enacted by The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Citation

1 This Act may be cited as the Customs Tariff Amendment Act 2021.

Amends the Fifth Schedule

2 (1) The Fifth Schedule to the principal Act (end-use relief) is amended as set out in this section.

(2) CPC 4110 (School equipment, stationery and educational supplies) is repealed and replaced as follows—

“

Description	Goods for educational institutions
CPC	4110
Duty Rate	0%
Eligible Beneficiary	All importers
Qualifying Goods	Goods of such description or quantity as may be approved by the Minister in the relevant approved institution notice made under this CPC, in accordance with policy guidelines issued by the Minister and published in such manner as he sees fit.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT ACT 2021

End-Use Conditions / Restrictions	1. Goods must be imported and used only for educational, developmental or training purposes by an approved institution. 2. In this CPC “approved institution” means a not for profit society or organization founded for an educational, developmental or training purpose and approved by the Minister by notice published in the Gazette (which shall not be subject to parliamentary scrutiny).
Specific Controls / Diversion	
Construction	For the avoidance of doubt, the general provisions of this Schedule shall be construed as one with this CPC.

(3) In CPC 4140 (Goods for youth organizations and St. John Ambulance Brigade)—

(a) in the description, delete “and St. John Ambulance Brigade”;

(b) in paragraph 1 of the End-Use Conditions/Restrictions, delete “only”.

(4) In CPC 4229 (Goods for local commercial manufacturing), in the definition “commercial manufacture of goods” in paragraph 2 of the End-Use Conditions/Restrictions, delete “, and excludes the manufacture of alcoholic beverages and products containing tobacco or tobacco substitutes”.

(5) After CPC 4235, insert the following new CPCs—

Description	Goods for international organizations
CPC	4236
Duty Rate	0%
Eligible Beneficiary	All importers
Qualifying Goods	Goods of such description or quantity as may be approved by the Minister in the relevant approved organization notice made under this CPC, in accordance with policy guidelines issued by the Minister and published in such manner as he sees fit.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT ACT 2021

End-Use Conditions / Restrictions	1. Goods must be imported for and used only for the purposes of an approved organization. 2. In this CPC— “approved organization” means an international organization approved by the Minister by notice published in the Gazette (which shall not be subject to parliamentary scrutiny); “international organization” means an association of States established by a treaty, possessing a constitution and common organs and having a legal personality distinct from that of the member States.
Specific Controls / Diversion	
Construction	For the avoidance of doubt, the general provisions of this Schedule shall be construed as one with this CPC.
Description	Goods eligible for business end-use relief
CPC	4237
Duty Rate	0%
Eligible Beneficiary	All importers
Qualifying Goods	Goods of such description or quantity as may be approved by the Minister in the relevant approved business notice made under this CPC, in accordance with policy guidelines issued by the Minister and published in such manner as he sees fit.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT ACT 2021

End-Use Conditions / Restrictions	<p>1. Goods must be imported for and used wholly and exclusively for business purposes by an approved business.</p> <p>2. In this CPC— “approved business ” means a business organization approved by the Minister by notice published in the Gazette (which shall not be subject to parliamentary scrutiny); “business” means— (a) the supply of goods and services for consideration; and (b) not for profit supplies of goods and services as made otherwise than in a personal capacity.</p>
Specific Controls / Diversion	
Construction	For the avoidance of doubt, the general provisions of this Schedule shall be construed as one with this CPC.
Description	Tobacco for local commercial manufacturing of tobacco products
CPC	4238
Duty Rate	\$105 per kg
Eligible Beneficiary	All importers
Qualifying Goods	Goods of headings 24.01 and 24.03
End-Use Conditions / Restrictions	<p>1. Goods must be imported for and used only in the local commercial manufacture of tobacco products by an approved business.</p> <p>2. In this CPC “approved business” means a business organization approved by the Minister by notice published in the Gazette (which shall not be subject to parliamentary scrutiny).</p>
Specific Controls / Diversion	
Construction	For the avoidance of doubt, the general provisions of this Schedule shall be construed as one with this CPC.
Description	Goods for NASA Space Flight Temporary Mobile Tracking Station

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT ACT 2021

CPC	4239
Duty Rate	0%
Eligible Beneficiary	All importers
Qualifying Goods	All goods
End-Use Conditions / Restrictions	Goods must be imported and used only by representatives of NASA for the purposes of the Research Range Services Programme.
Specific Controls / Diversion	
Construction	For the avoidance of doubt, the general provisions of this Schedule shall be construed as one with this CPC.

Consequential repeals, revocations and amendments

3 (1) In consequence of the amendments made by section 2 and the new CPCs inserted by section 2—

- (a) the following CPCs are repealed: CPC 4127, CPC 4197, and CPC 4212;
- (b) the following Remission Orders are revoked—
 - (i) Customs Duty (Infrasound Equipment) Remission Order 2008;
 - (ii) Customs Duty (The Bermuda Perfumery) Remission Order 2006;
 - (iii) Customs Duty (Bermuda Sloop Foundation – Spirit of Bermuda) Remission Order 2006.

(2) In the title and paragraph 1 of the Customs Tariff (Approved Organizations) Notice 2015, after “Organizations” insert “ - CPC 4216 & 4217”.

(3) In the title and paragraph 1 of the Customs Tariff (Approved Organizations) Notice 2016, after “Organizations” insert “ - CPC 4183”.

(4) In the title and paragraph 1 of the Customs Tariff (Approved Organizations) Notice 2018, after “Organizations” insert “ - CPC 4140”.

(5) In the title and paragraph 1 of the Customs Tariff (Approved Businesses) Notice 2019, after “Businesses” insert “ - CPC 4229”.

Commencement

4 This Act shall come into operation on 1 April 2021.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 2021

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1970 (“the principal Act”).

Clause 1 is self-explanatory.

Clause 2 amends the Fifth Schedule to the principal Act (end use relief). Subsection (2) broadens CPC 4110 (goods for education). Subsection (3) amends CPC 4140 (goods for youth organizations) to remove the specific reference to St John Ambulance Brigade, whose relief is covered elsewhere. Subsection (4) amends CPC 4229 (goods for local commercial manufacturing) to remove the exclusion for the manufacture of alcoholic beverages and products containing tobacco or tobacco substitutes. Subsection (5) inserts new CPC codes as follows: CPC 4236 (goods for international organizations); CPC 4237 (goods eligible for business end-use relief); CPC 4238 (tobacco for local commercial manufacturing of tobacco products) and CPC 4239 (goods for NASA Space Flight Temporary Mobile Tracking Station). CPC 4110 and CPC 4236-4238 will require the Minister of Finance to make notices to approve the institutions, organizations and businesses eligible for the end use relief, such notices are not subject to parliamentary scrutiny.

Clause 3 repeals three CPCs and revokes three Customs Duty Remission Orders in consequence of the amendments and new CPCs in clause 2. It also amends the title of four Customs Tariff approval notices to indicate which CPC codes they relate to, and to avoid confusion with the notices to be made under CPC 4110 and CPC 4236-4238.

Clause 4 provides for commencement.



BERMUDA

**CUSTOMS TARIFF (APPROVED BUSINESSES - CPC 4238)
NOTICE 2021**

BR 41 / 2021

The Minister of Finance, in exercise of the power conferred by Customs Procedure Code 4238 of the Fifth Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act 1970, makes the following Notice:

Citation

1 This Notice may be cited as the Customs Tariff (Approved Businesses - CPC 4238) Notice 2021.

Interpretation

2 In this Notice, "customs procedure code" or "CPC" has the meaning prescribed in section 1 of the Customs Tariff Act 1970.

Approved business under CPC 4238

3 The Smoke Shop Ltd. is an approved business under CPC 4238 of the Fifth Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act 1970 for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 only.

Commencement

4 This Notice comes into operation on 1 April 2021.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (APPROVED BUSINESSES - CPC 4238) NOTICE 2021

Made this 31st day of March 2021

Minister of Finance

[Operative Date: 01 April 2021]

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Sam Strangeways <SStrangeways@royalgazette.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 4, 2022 1:20 PM
To: Lister, Cheryl
Cc: Harris, Deborah
Subject: RE: Pati request re: customs duty relief
Attachments: Pati request re: customs duty relief

Pati
Exempted by Act

Good day Ms Lister,
I would like to request an internal review for a failure to decide please. I understand an internal review decision to be due by November 15. Obviously, if an initial decision is sent in the meantime, I can withdraw the internal review request. Please can you confirm receipt and let me know if you need anything further from me?
Kind regards,
Sam

Sam Strangeways WhatsApp 441 595-0161 ssrangeways@royalgazette.com



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From: Harris, Deborah [mailto:daharris@gov.bm]
Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 3:34 PM
To: Sam Strangeways
Subject: RE: Pati request re: customs duty relief

**This is an external Sender++ Email sent from someone External to our systems ++
When in doubt exercise caution and delete or forward to IT DEPT**

Good day Ms. Strangeways,
Thank you for your inquiry. I will follow this matter up with the Acting Financial Secretary. She returns to office tomorrow, and will be able to amplify further.
DH

Kind Regards,



Deborah A. Harris
Administration Officer
Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**
Government Administration Bldg, Second Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

Extension: 1496
Direct Telephone: 441 246-8287 | Email: daharris@gov.bm
Government Internal Telephone: 8100007

From: Sam Strangeways [mailto:SStrangeways@royalgazette.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 7:03 PM
To: Harris, Deborah <daharris@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Pati request re: customs duty relief

Good day Ms Harris,

I hope you are well. I understand I was due a response on this Pati request by September 7. I have been out of office but don't believe there has been a response. Can you advise when one will be forthcoming?

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Sam

From: Harris, Deborah [mailto:daharris@gov.bm]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:40 PM
To: Sam Strangeways
Subject: RE: Pati request re: customs duty relief

This is an external Sender++ Email sent from someone External to our systems ++
When in doubt exercise caution and delete or forward to IT DEPT

Good day Ms. Strangeways,

Thank you for your email which I acknowledge on behalf of the Ministry of Finance. As appropriate the request will be looked at for resolution.

Thanks

Kind Regards,



Deborah A. Harris

Administration Officer

Government of Bermuda | Ministry of Finance HQ

Government Administration Bldg, Second Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

Extension: 1496

Direct Telephone: 441 298 7413 | Email: daharris@gov.bm

Ministry of Finance HQ Direct Line: 441 297 7499

gov.bm

From: Sam Strangeways [mailto:SStrangeways@royalgazette.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 12:35 PM
To: Harris, Deborah <daharris@gov.bm>
Subject: Pati request re: customs duty relief

Good day Ms Harris,

Please find attached a Pati request for the Ministry of Finance regarding customs duty relief. It seeks:

- All records relating to any concessions for customs duty relief given for the importation of tobacco to Bermuda since March 2020 to date. This would include any and all communications and records showing amounts of

tobacco and value of tobacco imported **into the** island during this period **which** were covered **by the** duty relief and who imported the tobacco. Also records showing the basis on which **the relief was given.**

- Please provide a breakdown showing which tobacco importers received duty relief and the period of time the relief covered, as well as the amount of duty which would normally have been paid on these amounts if relief had not been granted.
- Records of refusals for customs duty relief from March 2020 to date.
- A list of all commercial and charitable entities given customs duty relief since March 2020 to date, including which items the relief covered, the timeframe of the relief and the amount of duty which would normally have been paid on these items if relief had not been granted.
- Any internal policies/procedures/records held by the ministry on when the 0% duty rate can be applied.

I understand I am due a decision by September 7, 2022.

Have a lovely holiday.

Kind regards,

Sam Strangeways Investigations Editor D 441 278-0155 sstrangeways@royalgazette.com



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F 441 295-9667

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PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION REQUEST FORM



PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

DETAILS OF REQUESTER

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Other

Surname: Strangeways

First name: Samantha

Middle name: Jane

Postal address: The Royal Gazette
2 Par-la-Ville Road
Hamilton

Postal code: HM08

E-Mail: sstrangeways@royalgazette.com

Telephone: 278-0155

PUBLIC AUTHORITY USE ONLY

Name of Public Authority accepting the request: _____

Date received: _____

Request number: _____

Request transferred: Yes No

Transferred to which Public Authority: _____

Information officer: _____

Identity verified: Yes No

Type of Identification: _____

DETAILS / RECORD(S) REQUESTED (Please print)

Is this a request for: Access to a record? A request for personal record? A change in personal record?

Please describe the record(s) you are requesting. Be as specific as possible as this would assist the request process. Include details on the subject matter of the request and the time frame to which the request refers. Include dates and any known documents. If you are making a request for personal information, please include the following: The full name of the person to whom the information relates. - OR - The authority which entitles you to apply on behalf of the person (if a third party).

Please provide:

- * All records relating to any concessions for customs duty relief given for the Importation of tobacco to Bermuda since March 2020 to date. This would include any and all communications and records showing amounts of tobacco and value of tobacco Imported into the island during this period which were covered by the duty relief and who imported the tobacco. Also records showing the basis on which the relief was given. Please provide a breakdown showing which tobacco Importers received duty relief and the period of time the relief covered, as well as the amount of duty which would normally have been paid on these amounts if relief had not been granted.
- * Records of refusals for customs duty relief from March 2020 to date.
- * A list of all commercial and charitable entities given customs duty relief since March 2020 to date, including which items the relief covered, the timeframe of the relief and the amount of duty which would normally have been paid on these items if relief had not been granted.
- * Any internal policies/procedures/records held by the ministry on when the 0% duty rate can be applied.

I wish to be communicated with by: Letter: E-mail: Other (please specify)

I wish to receive a copy/copies of the record(s) in the following formats:

Photocopy Electronic (via e-mail) Number of copies required: 1

Compact disc (audio / video format) Transcript

Other (please specify) _____ Decoded copy

The requester must complete this section (tick appropriate circle):

I want physical copies of the record(s) to be:

Delivered to me Available for pick-up

I want to inspect / view / listen to the record(s)

I want to have the record(s) e-mailed to me

Requester Signature: S Strangeways Date: July 27, 2022

25

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Martin, Carol M.
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2022 12:41 PM
To: Telemaque, Marc
Cc: Pearman, Lucinda; Lister, Cheryl
Subject: RE: C33 Limited and The Smoke Shop

Good day CS,

Acknowledging receipt with thanks. Your comments noted

Kind regards



Carol M. Martin
Executive Assistant to the Premier and Minister of Finance
and Acting Financial Secretary
Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**

Dir: 441 444 1287; Extension: 8100008
Email: cmmartin@gov.bm
Ministry of Finance HQ
gov.bm

jm>

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 2:07 PM
To: Adams, Jache A.; Premier David Burt; Burrows, Pamela
Cc: Lister, Cheryl; Martin, Carol M.
Subject: RE: Pitt and Co - Tobacco - Request for a meeting

Thanks Jache,

I should have those answers for you soon and we can then speak about next steps.

Hasan

From: Adams, Jache A.
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 12:40 PM
To: Premier David Burt <dburt@gov.bm>; Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>; Burrows, Pamela <pburrows@gov.bm>
Cc: Lister, Cheryl <clister@gov.bm>; Martin, Carol M. <cmmartin@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Pitt and Co - Tobacco - Request for a meeting

Premier,

Mr. Durham recently submitted a paper with a recommendation regarding this matter

Upon reading the paper I sent him a few follow up questions which I believe helps with the analysis

Mr. Durham is currently working on responses to the questions

Once completed I'm sure Mr. Durham will continue with the necessary process

Best,



Jache Adams

Advisor to the Minister of Finance
Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**
30 Parliament Street, 2nd Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

General Telephone: 441 295 5151 | Extension: 1503
Email: jaadams@gov.bm
Website: www.gov.bm

From: Premier David Burt <dburt@gov.bm>
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 12:33 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>; Burrows, Pamela <pburrows@gov.bm>
Cc: Lister, Cheryl <clister@gov.bm>; Martin, Carol M. <cmmartin@gov.bm>; Adams, Jache A. <jaadams@gov.bm>
Subject: Re: Pitt and Co - Tobacco - Request for a meeting

Mr. Durham,

Thanks for the follow up, I have not been dealing with this matter. My view for a follow-up is to ensure that we close the loop on this.

If there is a final decision for my review, it would be appreciated - and certainly if there are any papers that need to be prepared for cabinet would like to do that.

Regards,

Premier

Sent via BlackBerry Hub+ Inbox for Android

From: hdurham@gov.bm
Sent: August 29, 2022 11:46 AM
To: pburrows@gov.bm
Cc: dburt@gov.bm; clister@gov.bm; cmmartin@gov.bm
Subject: RE: Pitt and Co - Tobacco - Request for a meeting

Good Day Pam,

I have been working on the tobacco industry matters relating to duty for loose leaf tobacco. As I have not seen this letter in particular, it is most likely being dealt with by the Premier who I see has requested a follow up meeting.

Regards,

Hasan

From: Burrows, Pamela
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 11:15 AM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Cc: Premier David Burt <dburt@gov.bm>; Lister, Cheryl <clister@gov.bm>; Martin, Carol M. <cmmartin@gov.bm>
Subject: Pitt and Co - Tobacco - Request for a meeting

Dear Hasan:

Grateful if you could advise if this matter has been referred to you.

Confirming that the hard copy was sent to the Ministry marked for the Premier's attention on 5th July, 2022.

Kind regards,

Pam



Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Northcott, David A.
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 11:11 AM
To: Lister, Cheryl
Cc: Robinson, Tresa
Subject: Electronic copy of cc'd letter
Attachments: 20220719LtrtoPittAndCo.pdf

Good day Ms. Lister,

Please find attached your copy of a reply from the Minister of Home Affairs to a letter from Pitt and Co regarding duty rates and tobacco. He has directed them to the Minister of Finance via yourself.

Kind regards

David Northcott
Policy Analyst
Ministry of Home Affairs HQ
30 Parliament Street
Hamilton HM11
Bermuda
Tel: +1 441 2977782



Government of Bermuda
Ministry of Home Affairs
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

18th July 2022

r (Tobacco/Beverages) Pitt & Co. Ltd.

Thank you for your letter dated 5th July 2022 regarding duty on tobacco products.

Please note that matters regarding Customs Tariffs fall under the purview of the Minister of Finance. The current Minister of Finance is the Premier, the Hon. David Burt, JP, MP.

I would respectfully request that you address your concerns directly with him via his Financial Secretary, Mrs. Cheryl Lister. She can be contacted at her government email, clister@gov.bm or the Ministry of Finance, 2nd Floor, Government Administration Building, 30 Parliament Street, Hamilton HM 12.

Sincerely,

The Hon. Walter H. Roban, JP, MP
Minister of Home Affairs

Cc: Cheryl Lister, Acting Financial Secretary

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Adams, M. Honey S.
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 5:25 PM
Subject: MEDIA RELEASE January 2022 Consumer Price Index
Attachments: Consumer Price Index - Jan 22 (06042022).pdf

Importance: High



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA
Department of Communications

MEDIA RELEASE

April 6 2022

CONTACT
Honey Adams
hsadams@gov.bm

January 2022 Consumer Price Index

The Ministry of Economy and Labour released the January 2022 Consumer Price Index from the Department of Statistics.

Consumers paid 2.5 per cent more in January 2022 than they did a year ago for the basket of goods and services included in the [Consumer Price Index \[CPI\]](#).

In summary, during January 2022, consumers paid 2.5 per cent more than they did in January 2021 for the basket of goods and services.

The Food sector and the Health & Personal Care sector continue to have a substantial impact on the annual rate of inflation, as price shifts in these sectors were 4.7 per cent and 3.3 per cent, respectively. Goods in the Food sector such as frozen spare ribs (+28.1 per cent), corn on the cob (+13.7 per cent), and rice (+9.0 per cent) reported notable annual average increases. Within the Health & Personal Care sector, the cost of health insurance (+4.7 per cent) and prescription medicines (+2.3 per cent) increased.

The Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector climbed 3.0 per cent annually in response to the rising cost of boat repairs (+9.7 per cent) and televisions (+8.8 per cent). On an annual basis, Clothing & Footwear prices rose 0.7 per cent as the cost of jewellery climbed 7.4 per cent. The Rent sector (-0.6 per cent) and the Fuel & Power sector (-5.7 per cent) registered offsetting declines as the average cost of properties not subject to rent control declined by 2.0 per cent. In comparison, the monthly tariff for 700 residential kilowatts hours of electricity fell 34.4 per cent compared to the corresponding month last year.

Between December 2021 and January 2022, the average cost of goods and services was unchanged.

Additional areas of note between December 2021 and January 2022 are as follows:

- In response to a 6.3 per cent decrease in the fuel adjustment rate, the Fuel & Power sector fell 2.0 per cent.

- The Tobacco & Liquor sector slid 0.1 per cent for the month. The average price of beer and wine declined 0.3 per cent and 0.1 per cent, respectively.

- Overseas airfares fell 6.3 per cent in January. As a result, the Transport & Foreign Travel sector declined 0.8 per cent for the month. In contrast, the average cost of premium fuels and mixed fuels rose 1.7 per cent and 1.6 per cent, respectively.

- The Food sector increased by 0.8 per cent in January. Contributing to the increase was the average price of bread (+8.0 per cent), onions (+6.5 per cent) and raisins (+4.7 per cent).

- The Clothing & Footwear sector dipped 0.1 per cent due to the decline in the average cost of women's shirts (-0.7 per cent) and jewellery (-0.2 per cent).

**Note:* In summary, each month, the Government measures the annual rate of inflation and the monthly rate of inflation – Annual changes are from the same month last year, and monthly are the changes from month to month. The January 2022 Consumer Price Index is available online at www.gov.bm/bermuda-business-statistics

-ENDS-



Annual Inflation Rate +2.5%

ANNUAL INFLATION DOWN SLIGHTLY

Consumers paid 2.5 per cent more in January than they did a year ago for the basket of goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This level of inflation slipped 0.2 percentage points from the December 2021 annual inflation rate of 2.7 per cent.

Between December 2021 and January 2022, the average cost of goods and services in the CPI was unchanged. The all-items index remained at 108.6. This means that the basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in April 2015 now costs \$108.60.

YEAR-TO-YEAR ANALYSIS

The Transport & Foreign Travel sector continued to be the largest contributor to the twelve-month increase in the CPI (+9.4 per cent). On average, annual increases were reported in the cost of premium fuels and mixed fuels, 9.8 per cent and 8.0 per cent, respectively.

The Food sector and the Health & Personal Care sector also continue to impact strongly on the annual rate of

inflation, as price shifts in these sectors were 4.7 per cent and 3.3 per cent, respectively.

Items in the Food sector such as frozen spare ribs (+28.1 per cent), corn on the cob (+13.7 per cent) and rice (+9.0 per cent) reported notable annual average increases. Within the Health & Personal Care sector, the cost of health insurance (+4.7 per cent) and prescription medicines (+2.3 per cent) increased.

Year-over-year, the Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector climbed 3.0 per cent in response to the rising cost of boat repairs (+9.7 per cent) and televisions (+8.8 per cent). On an annual basis, Clothing & Footwear prices rose 0.7 per cent as the cost of jewellery climbed 7.4 per cent. The Rent sector (-0.6 per cent) and the Fuel & Power sector (-5.7 per cent) registered offsetting declines. The average cost of properties not subject to rent control decreased 2.0 per cent while the monthly tariff for 700 residential kilowatts hours of electricity dropped 34.4 per cent compared to the corresponding month last year.

The compilation of the CPI involves the processing of several thousand price quotations. The Department of Statistics wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the business community in supplying the required price data.

SUMMARY STATISTICS					
Period	Monthly		Period	Quarterly	
	Index	Annual per cent Change		Index	Annual per cent Change
2021			2019		
Jan	106.0	-0.3	Q1	105.3	+1.2
Feb	106.3	+0.2	Q2	105.7	+0.7
Mar	106.7	+0.8	Q3	106.4	+1.1
Apr	107.0	+0.9	Q4	105.7	+0.7
May	107.3	+1.4	2020		
June	107.0	+1.2	Q1	106.1	+0.8
July	107.5	+2.2	Q2	105.8	+0.1
Aug	107.5	+1.6	Q3	105.5	-0.8
Sept	107.7	+2.2	Q4	105.7	Nil
Oct	108.3	+2.5	2021		
Nov	108.8	+2.8	Q1	106.3	+0.2
Dec	108.6	+2.7	Q2	107.1	+1.2
2022			Q3	107.6	+2.0
Jan	108.6	+2.5	Q4	108.6	+2.7

MONTH-TO-MONTH ANALYSIS

Food

The Food sector increased 0.8 per cent in January. Contributing to the increase was the average price of bread (+8.0 per cent), onions (+6.5 per cent) and raisins (+4.7 per cent).

Household Goods, Services & Supplies

The Household Goods, Services & Supplies sector increased 0.2 per cent for the month. The average cost of childcare services rose 3.4 per cent.

Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading

The Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector edged up 0.1 per cent in January in response to a 1.2 per cent rise in pet food prices.

Health & Personal Care

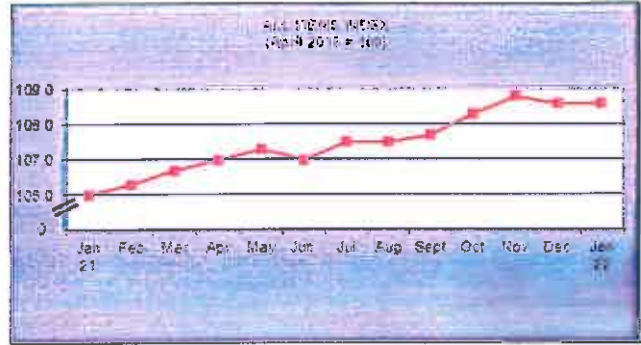
The Health & Personal Care sector advanced 0.1 per cent as the average cost of self-prescribed medicines and household medical supplies increased 0.7 per cent.

Rent

The Rent sector inched up 0.1 per cent for the month as properties subject to rent control rose 0.1 per cent.

Tobacco & Liquor

The Tobacco & Liquor sector slid 0.1 per cent for the month. The average price of beer and wine declined 0.3 per cent and 0.1 per cent, respectively.



Clothing & Footwear

The Clothing & Footwear sector dipped 0.1 per cent due to decline in the average cost of women’s shirts (-0.7 per cent) and jewellery (-0.2 per cent).

Fuel & Power

In response to a 6.3 per cent decrease in the fuel adjustment rate the Fuel & Power sector fell 2.0 per cent.

Transport & Foreign Travel

Overseas airfares fell 6.3 per cent in January. As a result, the Transport & Foreign Travel sector declined 0.8 per cent for the month. In contrast, the average cost of premium fuels and mixed fuels rose 1.7 per cent and 1.6 per cent, respectively.

COMPUTING PRICE INCREASES

The Department of Statistics receives calls daily requesting the rate of inflation over specific periods of time. The following calculations are provided to guide users as to how to compute rates of price increases. The monthly index numbers can be obtained from our website: <https://www.gov.bm/departments/statistics>.

A) Month-to-Month Price Change

The price change between February 2020 and January 2020 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Feb 20 index} - \text{Jan 20 index}}{\text{Jan 20 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{106.1 - 106.3}{106.3} \times 100$$

$$= -0.2\%$$

B) Year-to-Year Price Change

The price change between March 2020 and March 2019 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Mar 20 index} - \text{Mar 19 index}}{\text{Mar 19 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{105.9 - 105.6}{105.6} \times 100$$

$$= 0.3\%$$

C) Particular Period Price Change

The price change between February 2020 and March 2018 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Feb 20 index} - \text{Mar 18 index}}{\text{Mar 18 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{106.1 - 104.3}{104.3} \times 100$$

$$= 1.7\%$$

BERMUDA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

APRIL 2015 = 100

	All Items	Food	Rent	Clothing & Footwear	Tobacco & Liquor	Fuel & Power	Household Goods, Services & Supplies	Transport & Foreign Travel	Education, Recreation, Entertainment, & Reading	Health & Personal Care
2013 WEIGHT	1000	115	267	25	31	39	116	130	147	130
ANNUAL AVERAGE (per cent)										
2017	+1.9	+2.2	+0.1	+1.5	+7.8	+7.8	+0.5	+3.6	+2.0	+1.3
2018	+1.4	+2.1	+0.2	+1.5	+4.3	+5.8	-0.2	+0.3	+2.1	+3.1
2019	+1.0	+2.7	+0.9	+1.9	+3.8	+1.1	Nil	-3.0	+0.4	+3.4
2020	Nil	+4.5	-1.8	+0.9	+2.3	-1.8	+0.3	-4.6	+1.1	+2.8
2021	+1.5	+0.4	-0.3	+1.0	-0.6	-5.0	+1.7	+6.4	+2.0	+2.3
MONTHLY (per cent)										
2020										
Jan	+0.9	+0.8	+0.9	Nil	-0.4	Nil	+0.3	+2.2	+0.1	Nil
Feb	-0.2	Nil	-0.5	Nil	+0.8	Nil	+0.1	-0.7	Nil	Nil
Mar	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	Nil	+0.6	Nil	Nil	-0.6	-0.1	Nil
Apr	+0.1	+0.8	-0.3	+0.5	+0.8	Nil	+0.1	-1.7	+0.1	+1.2
May	-0.2	+0.7	-0.9	Nil	-0.5	Nil	Nil	+0.1	Nil	Nil
Jun	-0.1	+0.2	-0.5	Nil	+0.1	Nil	Nil	-0.4	+0.1	Nil
Jul	-0.5	+0.1	-0.4	Nil	-0.2	-3.4	+0.1	-1.9	Nil	Nil
Aug	+0.6	+0.5	+0.3	Nil	+0.3	Nil	+0.1	+0.2	+1.7	+0.8
Sept	-0.4	+0.3	-1.3	Nil	+0.9	Nil	+0.1	-1.3	+0.1	Nil
Oct	+0.3	+0.1	+1.2	+0.2	-0.6	Nil	+0.3	+0.1	+0.1	Nil
Nov	+0.1	-0.2	-0.2	Nil	+0.1	Nil	+0.2	+1.5	-0.2	Nil
Dec	-0.1	-0.3	+0.5	Nil	-0.6	Nil	+0.7	-2.2	-0.1	Nil
2021										
Jan	+0.3	+0.1	+0.5	+0.5	+0.3	+1.0	Nil	+1.5	-0.1	Nil
Feb	+0.3	+0.3	Nil	Nil	-0.8	Nil	Nil	+2.2	+0.2	Nil
Mar	+0.4	+0.3	+0.2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	+2.2	Nil	Nil
Apr	+0.3	Nil	Nil	-0.6	+0.1	+1.5	+0.3	+0.7	Nil	+1.1
May	+0.3	-0.1	-0.7	Nil	-0.1	+0.2	+0.3	+3.7	+0.1	Nil
Jun	-0.3	+0.5	-0.3	Nil	-1.3	-14.1	Nil	+0.8	+0.9	+0.7
Jul	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	+1.1	+0.1	+2.8	Nil	+1.5	+0.1	Nil
Aug	Nil	+0.5	+0.6	Nil	+0.3	Nil	+0.1	-1.8	+0.1	Nil
Sept	+0.2	+0.3	-0.4	Nil	+0.2	Nil	Nil	+0.2	+1.2	Nil
Oct	+0.6	+0.2	-0.4	+0.3	Nil	+6.9	+0.5	+3.1	+0.1	-0.2
Nov	+0.5	+1.7	+0.1	Nil	+2.3	Nil	Nil	-1.1	+0.4	+1.5
Dec	-0.2	Nil	Nil	Nil	-0.3	+0.2	+0.1	-1.4	Nil	-0.1
2022										
Jan	Nil	+0.8	+0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-2.0	+0.2	-0.8	+0.1	+0.1
Jan '22	108.6	118.7	100.0	108.2	126.3	101.7	106.0	101.2	113.7	119.1
Jan '22	+2.5	+4.7	-0.6	+0.7	+0.4	-5.7	+1.4	+3.4	+3.0	+3.3
Jan '21										

WHAT IS THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX?

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a statistical tool used for measuring changes in the general level of prices of consumer goods and services purchased by private households.

The index measures price movements of a given quality and quantity of goods and services. The mix of these consumer goods and services comprising the index, are figuratively thought of as a “shopping basket.” In constructing this “shopping basket”, the selected goods and services are organized first by commodity type. They are then divided into sub-components and assigned to a major expenditure group. The Bermuda CPI is structured into nine expenditure groups or sectors:

- Food
- Rent
- Clothing & Footwear
- Tobacco & Liquor
- Fuel & Power
- Transport & Foreign Travel
- Household Goods, Services & Supplies
- Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading
- Health & Personal Care

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Base Period

The time period which is used as a reference point for measuring the price change of goods and services. The base period for the Bermuda CPI is April 2015.

Price Index Number

A single figure that shows how a set of prices has changed over a specified period of time. An index number on its own means nothing. It must be compared with an index number from another period to have meaning. For example, a comparison of the index number 97.2 for January 2014 with 100.4 for January 2016, reveals that prices have increased by 3.3 percent.

Laspeyres Equation

The CPI is computed using this statistical equation. This formula calculates the total amount of money a household needs today to purchase the same basket of goods and services that it bought in the base period, April 2015.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE

A mathematical formula that takes into account the relative importance of an item’s price change compared to the overall change in the sector or CPI.

Inflation

Inflation is the process of rising prices, resulting in diminishing purchasing power of a given sum of money.

Cost of Living Index

Many individuals refer to the CPI as a cost-of-living index. The CPI is an index of pure price change only. A cost-of-living index reflects the changes in buying or consumption patterns that consumers would ordinarily make to adjust to any change in the price of a good or service.

A COMPARISON OF RATES OF INFLATION (%) Selected Countries & Bermuda

	2018	2019	2020	2021	Jan 22
Bermuda	+1.4	+1.0	Nil	+1.5	+2.5
United States ¹	+2.4	+1.8	+1.2	+4.7	+7.5
Canada ²	+2.3	+1.9	+0.7	+3.4	+5.1
United Kingdom ³	+3.3	+2.6	+1.5	+4.1	+7.8

Sources:

1. US Bureau of Labour Statistics
2. Statistics Canada
3. UK Office of National Statistics

March 2022

Department of Statistics
Cedar Park Centre,
48 Cedar Avenue, Hamilton HM 11

P.O. Box HM 3015
Hamilton HM MX, Bermuda

Tel: (441) 297-7761, Fax: (441) 295-8390

Website: <https://www.gov.bm/department/statistics>



Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 7:09 PM
To: Hughes, Chardonnai V.
Subject: FW: Tobacco Recommendation



Hasan Durham

Concierge Manager
Economic Development Department | Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Economy and Labour**
Ingham & Wilkinson Building, 3rd Floor | 129 Front Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

Direct Telephone: 441 297-7817
Email: hdurham@gov.bm | Web: www.gov.bm

From: Adams, Jache A.
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 2:58 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Tobacco Recommendation

Hi Hasan,

Just wanted to follow up on this

Best,



Jache Adams

Advisor to the Minister of Finance
Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**
30 Parliament Street, 2nd Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

General Telephone: 441 295 5151 | Extension: 1503
Email: jaadams@gov.bm
Website: www.gov.bm

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2022 5:59 PM
To: Adams, Jache A. <jaadams@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Tobacco Recommendation

Hello Jache,

Still waiting on Customs to get back to me.

You can see below that I asked for an update.

Hasan

From: Adams, Jache A.
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2022 5:33 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Tobacco Recommendation

Thanks Hasan
This is great

Are you able to advise when we can expect to receive your recommendation?

Best,



Jache Adams

Advisor to the Minister of Finance
Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**
30 Parliament Street, 2nd Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

General Telephone: 441 295 5151 | Extension: 1503
Email: jaadams@gov.bm
Website: www.gov.bm

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2022 4:19 PM
To: Adams, Jache A. <jaadams@gov.bm>
Subject: FW: Tobacco Recommendation

Hello Jache,

Please see the response from Richard Amos below.

Hasan

From: Amos, J. Richard
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2022 4:11 PM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Tobacco Recommendation

Good day Mr. Durham,

Reviewing Jache's question I would respond:

1. Yes the relief is for all loose leaf tobacco (heading 24.03) The relief also covers all unmanufactured tobacco (head 24.01).
2. All importers may claim the relief under CPC 4238 (Tobacco for local manufacturing).
3. The tobacco must be imported and used for the local commercial manufacturing of tobacco products by an approved business.
4. There is no limit to the number of businesses the Minister might approve.

5. So far the minister has only approved one business under CPC 4238.

Kind regards,

Amos

----- Original message -----

From: "Durham, Hasan" <hdurham@gov.bm>

Date: 5/30/22 10:49 AM (GMT-04:00)

To: "Amos, J. Richard" <jamos@gov.bm>

Subject: FW: Tobacco Recommendation

Good Morning Mr. Amos,

The Premier is looking for an update on the tobacco calculation and there is a question from Jache below.

Thanks,

Hasan

From: Adams, Jache A.

Sent: Monday, May 30, 2022 10:31 AM

To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>

Subject: RE: Tobacco Recommendation

Thanks Hasan for the update

I will update the Premier and Ms. Lister

Also, can you advise if the relief was permitted for all loose leaf tobacco or was the relief only given to a specific entity?

Best,



Jache Adams

Advisor to the Minister of Finance

Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**

30 Parliament Street, 2nd Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

General Telephone: 441 295 5151 | Extension: 1503

Email: jaadams@gov.bm

Website: www.gov.bm

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:58 PM
To: Adams, Jache A. <jaadams@gov.bm>
Subject: RE: Tobacco Recommendation

Good Morning Jache,

Customs are currently looking at their data to come up with options to accomplish the requested outcome. I just called for a specific update but didn't get an answer. I will follow up again later.

Regards,

Hasan

From: Adams, Jache A.
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 11:10 AM
To: Durham, Hasan <hdurham@gov.bm>
Subject: Tobacco Recommendation

Morning Hasan,

I just wanted to follow up on the progress of the tobacco matter

I meet with the Premier later today and would like to give him an update shortly

Many thanks,



Jache Adams

Advisor to the Minister of Finance

Government of Bermuda | **Ministry of Finance HQ**

30 Parliament Street, 2nd Floor | 30 Parliament Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

General Telephone: 441 295 5151 | Extension: 1503

Email: jaadams@gov.bm

Website: www.gov.bm

Hughes, Chardonnai V.

From: Durham, Hasan
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 7:17 PM
To: Hughes, Chardonnai V
Subject: ...s CPC 4229 application



Hasan Durham
Concierge Manager
Economic Development Department | Government of Bermuda | Ministry of Economy and Labour
Ingham & Wilkinson Building, 3rd Floor | 129 Front Street | Hamilton, Bermuda HM12

Direct Telephone: 441 297-7817
Email: hdurham@gov.bm | Web: www.gov.bm

From: Harrell, Tomika
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:50 AM
To: clister@gov.bm; spgift@gov.bm; hdurham@gov.bm
Cc: lpearman@gov.bm; iamos@gov.bm; mightbourne@gov.bm; hjhollis@gov.bm
Subject: RE ... application

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Ministry of Finance

Reference Number: 710

Samantha Strangeways
The Royal Gazette
2 Pa-La-Ville Road
Hamilton HM08

12 April, 2023

Dear Ms. Strangeways,

Re: Public Access to Information Act 2010: Decision Notice

Thank you for your request dated 27 July 2022. Your application has been granted subject to the records held that are exempted pursuant to the Public Access to Information Act 2010. The records granted will be provided alongside a schedule of records for ease of reference. All records that have been exempted will be detailed below inclusive of reasons for denying you such records.

S23 (1) Personal information: third party's information

Record 29 - Email from Hasan Durham to Jache Adams, Premier David Burt; Pamela Burrows.

- Name and email address of employee

Record 35 - 20220319LtrtoPittAndCo.pdf

- Personal information of 2 employees of the company.
- Information is not public.

Record 43 - Email from Tomika Harrell to clister@gov.bm, spgift@gov.bm, hdurham@gov.bm

- Personal information redacted.
- Small business and thus obvious who the information is pertaining to.

Section 25(1) (b) Commercial information: commercial value

Record 13 - Email RE: URGENT - RE: Smoke Shop - Tobacco for local manufacturing of tobacco products

- Discusses multiple companies and comparative with analysis.
- Commercial sensitivity of company products.

Record 19 - The Smoke Shop – PowerPoint

- Company Figures.
- Commercial sensitive information to the manufacturing process.

Record 20 - The Smoke Shop Report - Feb2022.

- Financial figures of the company's importation.

Record 27 - Email from Premier David Burt to Hasan Durham, Cheryl Lister RE: The Smoke Shop Tobacco Info.

- Detailed information of the company products.
- The company's product expenses.
- The company's financial position.

Record 38 - Email from Hasan Durham to Premier David Burt, Cheryl Lister RE: The Smoke Shop Info.

- Same as Record 27.

Record 41 - Email from Tomika Harrell to Cheryl Lister RE: Approvals from the Minister

- Information regarding a number of companies.
- Information could be detrimental to company as it relates to its competitors.

Record 42 - Email from Hasan Durham to Jache Adams RE: Re: URGENT- RE Smoke Shop- Tobacco for local manufacturing tobacco products

- Information about the financial health of the company
- The company's expenses
- Confidential information given to the public authority to assess for their application.

Record 47 - Email from Dean Lema to Hasan Durham RE: Pitt & Company – Calculation of Landed Value for Cigarette Shipments Importance: HIGH

- Discussions of numerous companies and their company DATA.
- Financial discussions that would be considered detrimental if made public.

Record 48 - 2020.11.26 Pitt & Company Cigarette Research.xlsx

- Includes irrelevant time-frames.
- Commercial information submitted for review by the Public Authority and submitted in confidence.

S25 (1) (d) Commercial information, the disclosure of which would prejudice, or could reasonably be expected to prejudice, the conduct or outcome of contractual or other negotiations of any person to whom the information relates.

Record 8 – Email from JAS to Richard Amos discussion of the Smoke Shops concession.

- Information sensitive to an application.
- Querying matters relating to an application.
- The company's personal details and the company's financial position.

Record 10 – Email FWD from Richard Amos to JAS the Smoke Shop's application for renewed access to the concessionary duty rate.

- Exact same as Record 8 above as it is the same email forwarded to another public officer.

S26 (1) (a) Information received in confidence: given in confidence

Record 11- Attachment to email of Record 10: Note to Minister (Smoke Shop- Tobacco Per Cigarette Importation Rate) 26 July 22.docx.

- The note contains information about the company received in confidence by the Public authority.
- The company's financial obligations.
- Recommendations to assist with the renewal of an application and thus not finalized

Record 12 - RE: Pitt and Co – Tobacco – Request for meeting.

- Information given in strictest confidence to the public authority.
- Details of discussions that will breach trust and confidence.

Record 14 - The Smoke Shop -Tobacco Importation Rate 12 May 2022.

- Information about the company's finances.
- The ability to compete in the relevant market.
- Recommendations which are not yet finalized.

Record 15 - Email FWD: Smoke Shop-Tobacco for local manufacturing of tobacco products 2022

- The company has highlighted the nature of the email as confidential in nature.
- Discussions of the company financial position.
- Breakdown of the company's expenses.

Record 16- Expenses List RL.pdf

- Extensive list of personal information of employees.
- A Company's finances.

Record 26 - Email from Carol Martin to Marq Telemaque RE: C33 Limited and The Smoke Shop.

- Information given in strictest confidence to the public authority.
- Detailed conversation that will breach the confidence of the company.

Record 28- Email from Carol Martin on behalf of Curtis Dickinson to Wendall Brown RE: C33 Limited and The Smoke Shop.

- Same as above Record 26.

Record 39- Email FW: From Carol Martin to Premier David Burt, Hasan Durham, Jache Adams, Ryan Perinchief FW: Pitt & Co -Duty Relief - Meeting request.

- Information given in strictest confidence to the public authority.
- Detailed conversations that will cause breach of confidence.

Record 45 - Email from Anthony Manders to Hasan Durham RE: FW: More Urgent Than We Thought - The Smoke Shop

- This email details information on the company's financial position.
- Personal information of employees.
- Information of companies.

Record 46 - Email from Richard Amos to Hasan Durham, Dean Lema Re: The Smoke Shop Meeting Notes.

- Same as above Record 45.

Record 49 - Email from Curtis Dickinson Re: Urgent Attn: The Smoke Shop Fwd: Tobacco Shipment.

- Information about the company's employees.
- The company's financial position.
- Company Invoices.

Record 29 - Re: Media query - Questions for the Minister of Finance.

- Queries about numerous companies.
- Personal information mentioned about company employees.
- Sensitive information regarding figures of a company.

S27 (1) (ba) Cabinet Document: drafting instructions or draft bills or statutory instruments

Record 5 - Instructions CTAB_2021.docx;

Record 6 - Annex C – illustration of new CPC 4238.docx

Record 44 - Email from Richard Amos to Cathryn Balfour-Swain, Stephan Gift RE: Draft Instructions – Customs Tariff Amendment Bill 2021

Records are Absolute Exemptions and are not subject to Public Interest Test pursuant to s21 of PATI 2010.

S36 (b) Parliamentary Privilege

Record 50 - Email from Cheryl Lister to Stephan Gift Re: URGENT! URGENT Fw: Important – Legislative Agenda

S29. Deliberations of public authorities

- Personal information of companies
- Discussion for recommendations and not final results.
- Querying possible amendments or enhancing analysis.

Under section 41 of the Public Access to Information Act 2010 (the Act), you have a right to an Internal Review of a decision regarding your request.

If you wish to request an Internal Review, you have 6 weeks from this notification per section 42 of the act. The request should be made in writing to [insert name of public authority] and include:

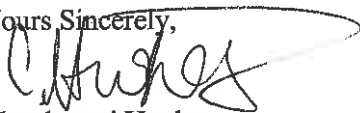
- (a) your name, address and telephone number;
- (b) a copy of your application and/or the reference number assigned to your application;
- (c) a copy of this letter; and
- (d) if so inclined, the basis on which you are requesting a review of the decision indicated.

If upon Internal Review, the decision is still not favourable to you, you have the right under section 45 of the Act to a review by the Information Commissioner of:

- (a) any decision made by the head of a public authority on an internal review, within 6 weeks after being notified of that decision; or
- (b) any failure by the head of a public authority to make a decision on review, within 6 weeks after the date when the decision was required to be made.

If you wish to request a review by the Information Commissioner, you have 6 weeks from the receipt of the internal review decision. The request should be made in writing to the Information Commissioner at 2 Par-la-Ville Road, Hamilton HM-08 or info@ico.bm.

Yours Sincerely,



Chardonnai Hughes
PATI Officer