

QoN 01

Are you aware of Australia's obligations under Article 5.3 of World Health Organisation's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control "*in setting and implementing their public health policies with respect to tobacco control, Parties shall act to protect these policies from commercial and other vested interests of the tobacco industry in accordance with national law*"?

Yes. I am also familiar with Article 1 of the FCTC which defines 'tobacco control' as "a range of supply, demand and **harm reduction** strategies that aim to improve the health of a population by eliminating or reducing their consumption of tobacco products and exposure to tobacco smoke".

Australia's ban on e-cigarettes has likely furthered the interests of those who sell tobacco products, although I am sure that was not the intention. As the economic evidence in my submission shows, efforts to clamp down on vaping tend to increase cigarette sales.

All the big tobacco companies have moved into the e-cigarette market since 2013. This should not concern policy-makers per se, but when Australia finally legalises e-cigarettes, it should be careful not to erect barriers to entry through excessive regulation, as this would only benefit the larger companies.

Christopher Snowden, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 02

Have you or your organisation received any support, whether financial or non-financial, direct or indirect, from any parties involved in the production, distribution or sale of tobacco, nicotine or vaping products?

Please provide details of that support, including:

- a. the nature of that support;
- b. the amount or value provided;
- c. the name of the entity or person providing it; and
- d. any other related information.

Yes. We have received unrestricted financial donations. The IEA is an educational charity that welcomes donations from any individual, business or foundation of good standing that wishes to support our work.

We are more than happy for donors to publicise their support, but we also respect their privacy. We do not disclose the names of our donors nor the amounts donated. This confidentiality extends to staff, so I could not give you further details if I wanted to. Our policy is explained here: <https://iea.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Who-Funds-You-FAQ-v9-1.pdf>

Christopher Snowdon, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 03

Have you or your organisation, received any support, whether financial or non-financial, direct or indirect, from associated entities of tobacco companies?

If yes, please provide details of that support, including:

- a. the nature of that support;
- b. the amount or value provided;
- c. the name of the entity or person providing it; and
- d. any other related information.

Possibly, but I cannot immediately think of any.

Christopher Snowdon, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 04

Have you received any assistance, or liaised or consulted with, any other person or organisation in the preparation of your evidence to this inquiry?

If yes, please provide the details of any persons and/or organisation that assisted, or with whom you liaised or consulted, in the preparation of your evidence to this inquiry, including:

- a. the name of the persons or organisation;
- b. the ABN or CAN, if applicable; and
- c. any other related information.

No.

Christopher Snowden, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 05

Did you make inquiries as to whether the persons/organisations you consulted or liaised with receive any support, whether financial or non-financial, direct or indirect, from parties involved in the production, distribution or sale of tobacco, nicotine or vaping products?

If yes, please provide the details of those inquiries, including:

- a. what assurances were sought;
- b. dates of those inquiries; and
- c. whether they were made in written form or orally.

Not applicable.

Christopher Snowden, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 06

Have you, or any organisation with which you are associated, received any support, whether financial or non-financial, direct or indirect, from the following organisations, or persons associated with, the following organisations:

- a. The Institute for Public Affairs;
- b. Centre for Independent Studies;
- c. The Sydney Institute;
- d. Australian Taxpayers Alliance;
- e. Australian Institute For Progress;
- f. Mannkal Economic Education Foundation;
- g. Legalise Vaping Australia; and
- h. any ATLAS network member organisation.

This looks rather like a blacklist. Is the committee suggesting that if I had received some non-financial support, such as getting advice, from the Centre for Independent Studies that I would have a conflict of interest or would be somehow compromised? If so, it seems excessively McCarthyite.

In any case, I haven't, but the IEA is one of the Atlas Network's 458 partners.
<https://www.atlasnetwork.org/partners>

Christopher Snowden, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 07

Please provide the details of support given by the organisations listed in question 4, including:

- a. name of the organisation;
- b. nature of the support;
- c. amount or value provided; and
- d. any other related information.

Not applicable.

Christopher Snowden, Institute of Economic Affairs

QoN 08

Have you consulted, or had any contact with the groups or persons associated with groups listed in question 4, regarding your submission to this inquiry, or regarding your policy on vaping, tobacco, nicotine or any related products?

If yes, please provide the details of the organisations listed in question 4 with which you had contact, including:

- a. name of the organisation; and
- b. what the nature of the contact was.

There aren't any groups or persons listed in question 4, so no. If you mean question 6, I met some people from the Centre for Independent Studies and the Australian Taxpayers Alliance several years ago. I spoke at a Centre for Independent Studies conference in Queensland. It was my understanding that freedom of association was still legal in Australia.

I also met someone from the Australian Taxpayers Alliance in London a few years ago. The nature of the contact was drinking in a pub.

Christopher Snowden, Institute of Economic Affairs