Commercial Tobacco Endgame Strategies: Perspectives on How to Successfully End the Tobacco Epidemic



# Achieving a Smokefree Aotearoa

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Research for a tobacco-free Aotearoa



# Outline

New Zealand context Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal Proposed Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Action Plan

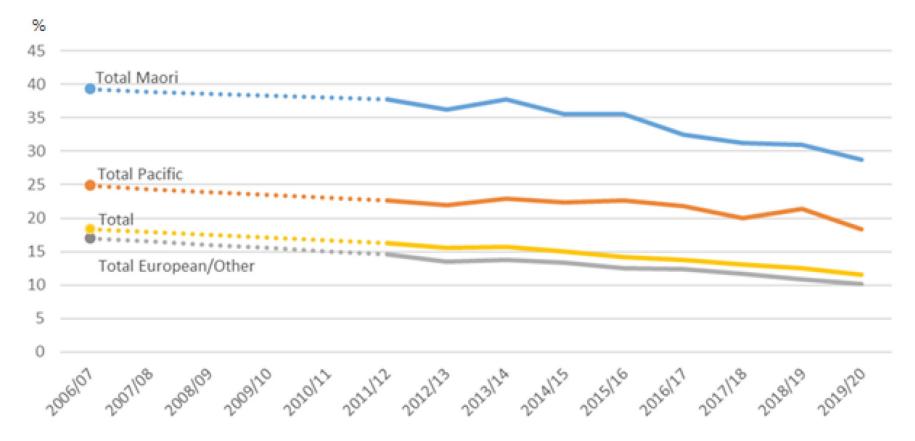
## Early milestones in NZ tobacco control

- 1963. TV & radio advertising banned
- 1974 First health warnings
- 1985 First substantial tax increases
- 1990 Most indoor workplaces smokefree,<16 years sales banned, advertising banned</li>
- 1995 Tobacco sponsorship ended
- 1995 Quitline launched
- 1999 First subsidised NRT
- 2004 Bars & restaurants smokefree
- 2008 Pictorial health warnings









## Figure 1: Daily smoking prevalence by ethnicity, 2006/07–2019/20

Source: NZHS

## Māori leadership and engagement with Smokefree Aotearoa 2025

It emerged out of new thinking on tobacco control by Māori leaders appalled by the unnecessary and wholly preventable loss of life and illness that afflicted Māori due to tobacco smoking.



Inquiry into the tobacco industry in Aotearoa and the consequences of tobacco use for Māori

Report of the Māori Affairs Committee

Forty-ninth Parliament (Hon Tau Henare, Chairperson) November 2010

Presented to the House of Representatives

#### Harawira Declares War On Big Tobacco

Wednesday, 31 May 2006, 12:04 am Article: Kevin List

Scoop Audio: Harawira Declares War On Big Tobacco



Maori Party MP Hone Harawira outlines his plan to make NZ smokefree by 2010



# The Smokefree 2025 Goal



".... the Government agrees with a longer term goal of reducing smoking prevalence and tobacco availability to minimal levels, thereby making New Zealand essentially a smoke-free nation by 2025."

Government Response to the Report of the Māori Affairs Committee on its Inquiry into the tobacco industry in Aotearoa and the consequences of tobacco use for Māori Wellington: New Zealand (NZ) Parliament, 2011.

# Endgame goals

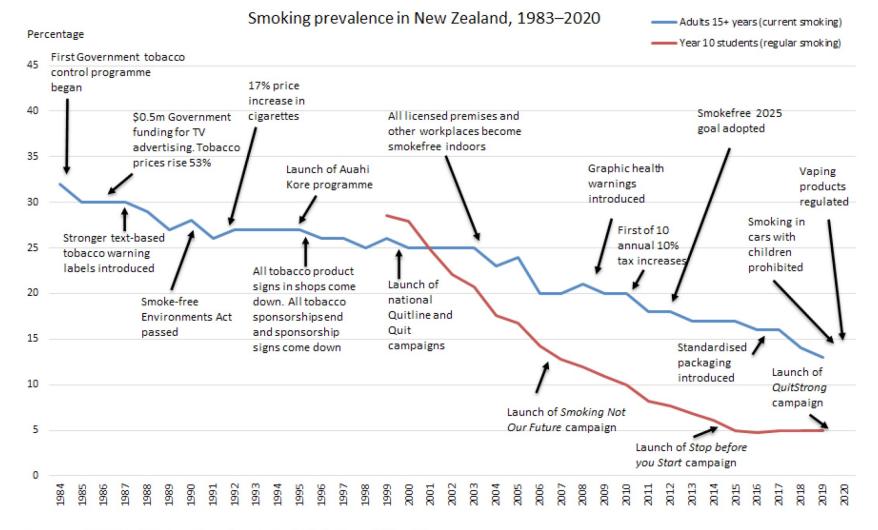
**2025** – Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden

2030 – Finland (nicotine-free goal)

2034 – Scotland

2035 – Canada





Source: Health Promotion Agency, Ministry of Health

# Govt strategies/action plans

- Strategies in place in 5 of the 6 countries (not NZ)
- In NZ, only non-govt strategy

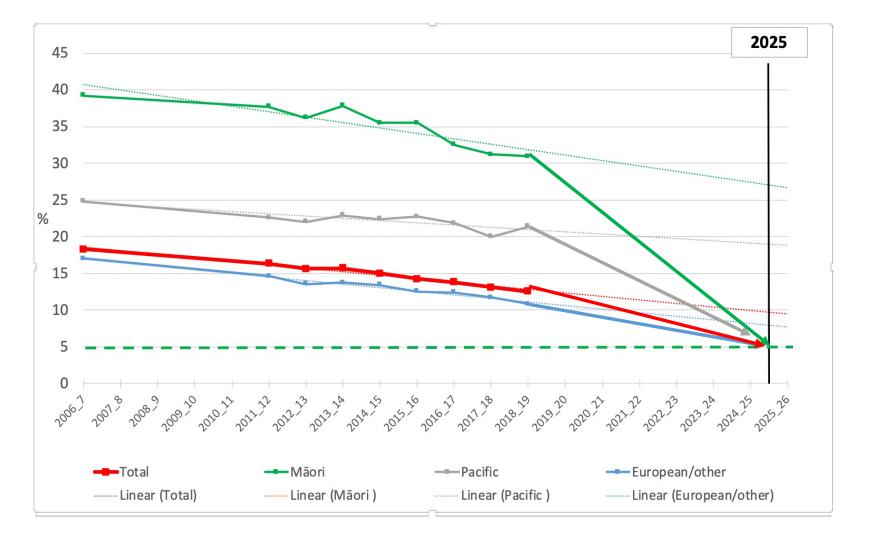




Tobacco use continues to be the leading preventable cause of premature death in Canada. While tobacco use has decreased, a significant number of Canadians still use tobacco and cigarette smoking kills **45,000 Canadians** each year. The total costs of tobacco use are more than \$16B pp year. The downerment of Canada has announced a target of least han 5% tobacco use by 2035 to reduce the staggering eacht and diseas burden of tobacco use. Reaching this target will save millions of lives and billions of dollars.

What does "Less than 5% by 2035" mean? Joday, there are approximately **4.6 million Canadians** 

## Trends in adult daily smoking (NZHS)



## New Zealand vaping products regulatory context

## Pre 2017

• Very restricted availability of nicotine-containing vaping products

## March 2017 – February 2020

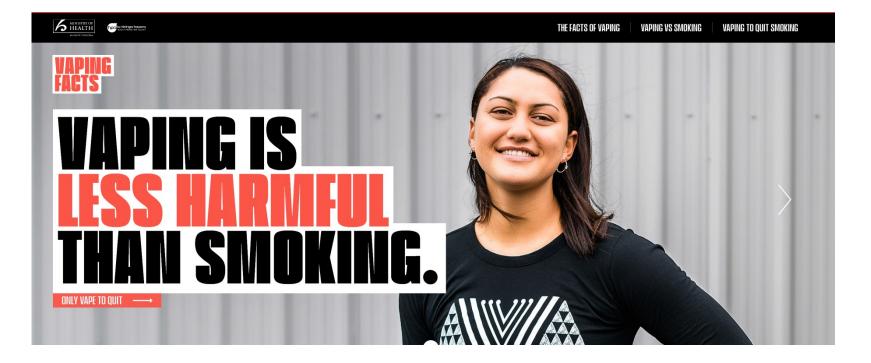
Progressively greater availability of nicotine-containing vaping products + marketing

## Feb 2020 - Smokefree Environments & Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Bill

- Sale of devices/e-liquids etc allowed in R18 specialist vape stores + other retailers
- New regulatory controls introduced e.g.
  - Full range of e-liquid flavours available only at specialist vaping retailers
  - No sales <18 years</li>
  - No advertising and sponsorship for ECs etc
  - No use of ECs in legislated smokefree areas (allowed in specialist vape stores)
  - Product notification with early warning system/recall, safety standards
  - Packaging/labelling, nicotine content regulation to be developed (? based on UK regulations)

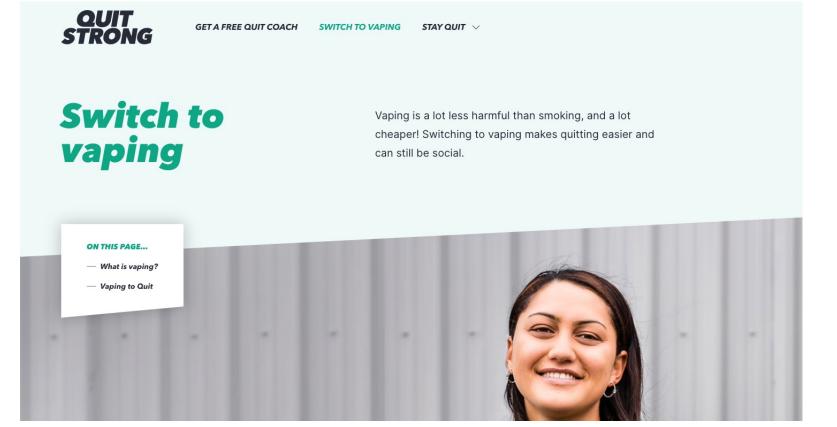
https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/preventative-health-wellness/tobacco-control/vaping-and-smokeless-tobacco

# Vaping Facts website

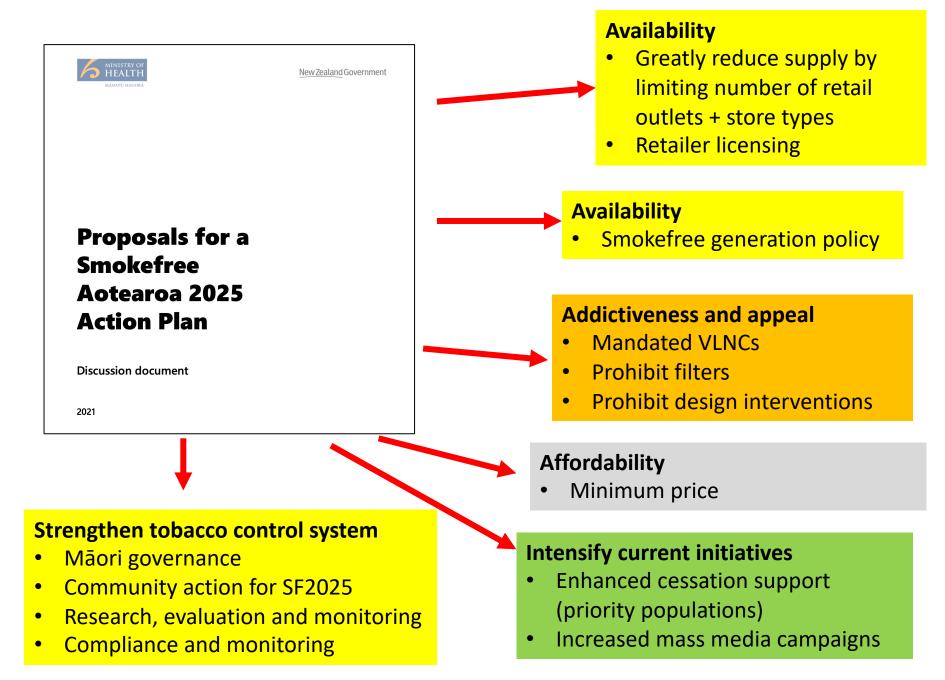


## https://vapingfacts.health.nz/

# Quit Strong campaign



https://www.quitstrong.nz/switch-vaping



# Key features

- Comprehensive and multi-faceted
- Strong disparities/equity focus
- Acknowledgement of need to help people who smoke to quit <u>and</u> prevent young people starting
- Acknowledgement of broader social and environmental determinants of quitting and uptake
- Evidence and expert informed
- Inclusion of bold 'endgame approaches' including in areas of supply and product design and attributes
- Risk-proportionate regulation and possible synergies through availability of alternative products for people who smoke

To accelerate progress towards Smokefree 2025, we must change how we tackle smoking. **We will not achieve it with a business-as**usual approach.

We are committed to achieving health equity in Aotearoa New Zealand and I will support this commitment by developing an action plan that seeks to eliminate inequities in smoking rates and smoking-related illnesses.



....we must take measures that alter the broader environment in which people live, to make it easy for young people to remain smokefree and for smokers to quit, rather than only focus on measures that have an influence at an individual level.

The addition of vaping products to the market provides decision-makers with an opportunity to adjust the regulatory settings in the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990 towards a more riskproportionate framework. This framework would make smoked tobacco much less accessible and less desirable than vaping products and smokeless tobacco.

# Public Health

» Home

**Availability** 

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Five Strategic Approaches to Achieving the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Goal

#### Posted on January 28, 2021 by tedla55p

Richard Edwards, Nick Wilson, Janet Hoek, Anaru Waa, George Thomson, Tony Blakely

The new NZ Government is to be congratulated for working on an Action Plan towards achieving the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Goal. To inform this process, we briefly set out five potential strategies for achieving this important health and equity goal and discuss their implementation.

## **Availability**

Greatly reduce supply by limiting number of retail outlets

### **Availability**

Increase legal age of sale of tobacco products or tobacco free generation policy

## **Addictiveness and appeal**

- Mandated VI NCs
- **Ban design innovations**
- **Ban additives**

## **Intensify current BAU approaches** e.g.

- Enhanced cessation support
- Increased mass media campaigns

[Post 2025] – 'Sinking Lid' on imports of tobacco products

## Affordability

Reinstate annual tobacco tax increases + minimum price

# Reactions

**BM** Journals

## Impossible until implemented: New Zealand shows the way **Tobacco Control**

Mike Daube (1),<sup>1</sup> Raglan Maddox (1)<sup>2</sup>

"Minister Verrall and the New Zealand Government deserve great praise for their excellent, world-leading plan. Their exemplar role can be crucial in saving thousands of lives in their own country and millions of lives around the world."

# Reactions

## Revealed: Big Tobacco behind dairy owners' postcard protest at Parliament

22 Jun, 2021 11:10 AM



Act deputy leader Brooke van Velden after receiving the petition of postcards from dairy owners at Parliament. Photo / Mark Mitchell

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#### By: Derek Cheng

Derek Cheng is deputy political editor for the New Zealand Herald

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## We Should Be Thanking Smokers. Instead, We're Making Them Miserable



Tuesday, 25 May 2021, 8:50 am Opinion: Taxpayers' Union

# Auckland black market tobacco: Dairies selling illegal smokes for organised crime groups •

George Block • 05:00, Jun 02 2021

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British America Tobacco said: "...there is a very real risk that many of its proposals in this action plan will directly drive more demand and more sales of illegal tobacco.... It simply generates more cash for criminals." https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/440560/smok

efree-group-says-cigarette-purchase-age-would-notdent-smoking-rates



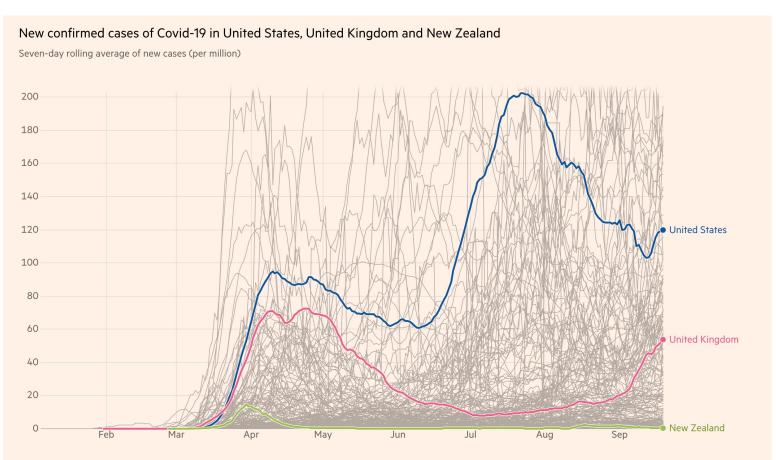
# Next steps/timeline

- Review of submissions and advice to Minister (2021)
- Final action plan and Cabinet consideration (2021)
- Implementation and legislation (2022 ->)

Tobacco industry response Advocacy and debate!

#### Asia & Pacific

# New Zealand isn't just flattening the curve. It's squashing it.



Source: Financial Times analysis of data from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the Covid Tracking Project, the UK Dept of Health & Social Care and the Spanish Ministry of Health. Data updated September 20 2020 6.01pm BST. Interactive version: fi.com/covid19

**FINANCIAL TIMES** 

Whaia te iti kahuranga ki te tuohu koe me he maunga teitei

https://aspire2025.org.nz/hot-topics/hottopic-action-plan-for-smokefree-aotearoa-2025/



A Smokefree Aotearoa by 2025

—let's do it for the kids