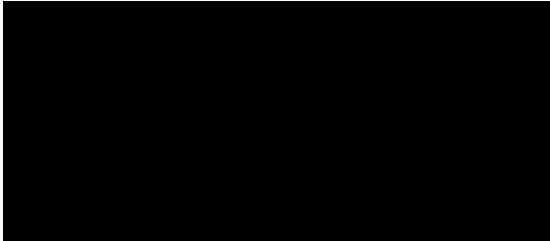


3 October 2023



### **Official Information Act #23.047 – Nawton Countdown**

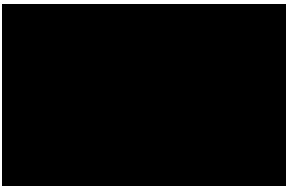
1. We refer to your request received on 7 September 2023 for information about the profitability and reason for closure of Nawton Countdown.
2. We have treated this as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**).

### **Our response**

3. We have decided to decline your request.
4. The Commerce Commission (**Commission**) does not hold information concerning the reason that Woolworths New Zealand Limited (**Woolworths**) closed the Nawton Countdown, therefore this part of your request is declined under section 18(g) of the OIA.
5. In 2020, the Commission conducted a market study into the grocery sector in New Zealand. As part of the study, the Commission received revenue information from Woolworths on a store by store basis for the past 10 years. The information was provided by Woolworths in confidence in response to information requests from the Commission strictly for the purposes of the 2020 market study into the New Zealand grocery sector.
6. We consider that good reasons exist under sections 9(2)(b)(ii) and 9(2)(ba)(i) of the OIA for withholding the information held by the Commission which is in scope of your request, and those reasons are not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available (section 9(1) of the OIA). The Commission is therefore declining this part of your request in accordance with section 18(a) of the OIA.

7. If you are not satisfied with the Commission's response to your OIA request, section 28(3) of the OIA provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.
8. Please note the Commission will be publishing this response to your request on its website. Your personal details will be redacted from the published response.
9. Please do not hesitate to contact us at [oya@comcom.govt.nz](mailto:oya@comcom.govt.nz) if you have any questions about this request.

Yours sincerely



OIA and Information Coordinator