



**POST-BUDGET 2013 SUBMISSION**

**Irish Cigarette Machine Operators Association (ICMOA)**

**January 2013**

**Introduction:**

The ICMOA is the trade association representing operators of cigarette vending machines in Ireland. The association was founded in 1982 and currently has over 60 member businesses with over 150 people employed. **ICMOA members contributed approx. €200m to the exchequer from excise and VAT in 2011.**

**Impact of Budget 2013 on ICMOA:**

In October 2012 the ICMOA outlined to the Department of Finance the detrimental impact that increasing levels of excise on tobacco was having on the livelihoods of our members and how the black market in tobacco was going from strength to strength with each increase in excise.

While we were slightly concerned given the current economic climate that the Government saw fit to increase excise by a further 10c per pack, we welcome the fact that the increase was relatively modest and wish to thank the Minister of Finance and Department officials for taking our views on board.

The trade in non-Irish Duty Paid (NIDP) remains, however, an enormous problem for our members, and for all legitimate tobacco retailers and society in general. We wish to re-affirm our opposition to future tobacco excise increases as counter-productive in generating additional revenues for the Exchequer as shown by the recent tobacco excise receipts and also from the point of view of further exacerbating the black market which is shown to be on the increase by Revenue's latest figures on the level of counterfeit tobacco products consumed in the state in 2011.

Sincerely,

*Cormac Dunne*

Cormac Dunne  
Secretary, ICMOA