

26 April 2024

Cody C
fyi-request-26282-87a4dc37@requests.fyi.org.nz>

REF: OIA-15043

Dear Cody

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 1 April 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I understand that as a Quadricycle, a "Citroën Ami" may not meet NZ frontal impact standards, for example, and so would need to receive an exemption before being permitted to be registered in New Zealand.

Please provide further details on the process for said exemption and how that might occur on registered said imported vehicle.

Please also advise if you have any information on approximate numbers of already-registered Quadricycles, or similar.

Quadricycles are not currently a defined vehicle type in New Zealand. This means that a quadricycle would require an exemption for permanent registration.

Exemptions from the Land Transport rules are considered under [168D of the Land Transport Act 1988](#) (LTA). The Director of Land Transport needs to be satisfied that, in granting an exemption to a regulator or rule (in this case, the [Land Transport \(Motor Vehicle Registration and Licensing\) Regulations 2011](#)), that the exemption is no broader than is reasonably necessary, and it is appropriate to grant the exemption considering:

- the Agency's objective in [section 94](#) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003; and
- the need to maintain or improve land transport safety; and
- whether the exemption supports the response to an emergency or other event; and
- any other matter that the Director considers appropriate in the circumstances.

This means that an exemption would be considered favourable if the vehicle meets or exceeds current vehicle standards. The public interest is considered, along with any risk factors that need to be mitigated.

An application can be made for an exemption from legal requirements that normally apply to vehicles using a CA11 Application for an exemption. You can find the application form here https://vehicleinspection.nzta.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/32862/CA-11-Application-for-exemption-from-Land-Transport-rules.pdf.

Frontal impact standards are an important consideration for vehicles that you may wish to use on the road. You can view the rules at this link <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/rules/frontal-impact-2001/>.

To date, no quadricycles have been granted an exemption for permanent registration. The only trial of a quadricycle that we are aware of did not involve a Citroën Ami. We are not able to comment on whether this quadricycle would meet impact standards or not, nor whether this would be the only issue that might need to be addressed before an exemption may be granted.

A review of our regulatory framework is expected to be underway soon to confirm if our current approach to vehicle regulation continues to be sufficient. This is expected to include considering what vehicle classes are accepted for registration, and what warrant or certificate of fitness arrangements would be required.

In the meantime, if you are looking to import a quadricycle and would like to receive guidance or, you would like to discuss this reply with NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA), please contact us at exemptions@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Botherway', is positioned above the printed name.

Nicole Botherway
National Manager