

26 NOV 2019



Satish

fyi-request-11467-bb44109a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 1920-0632

Dear Mr Bamal

Thank you for your email of 15 October 2019 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

1. *How many Case Officers are currently working in Manukau (or elsewhere) on SMC Applications*
2. *How many applications Case Officers are working on (already assigned).*
3. *What's the plan of action from INZ to clear the backlog of 7106 applications which are yet to assigned to Case Officer for Assessment.*

On 13 November 2019 you were advised that the time to respond to your request was extended until 29 November 2019.

Our Response

The processing of Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) residence applications is centralised to the Manukau office. As of 11 November 2019 there were 60 Immigration Officers processing SMC applications. There are also an additional 12 Immigration Officers in training to process SMC applications.

As of 11 November 2019 2,270 SMC applications were allocated to immigration officers for processing.

Manukau office is resourced to meet the current New Zealand Residence Programme (NZRP) Planning Range set by the Cabinet (of the New Zealand Government). The NZRP is for 50,000 to 60,000 residence approvals from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019. Further information in regards to the NZRP can be found on INZ's website at the below link.

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/government-updates-new-zealand-residence-programme>

I trust you find the information helpful.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact Penny Hazlett, Business Advisor penny.hazlett@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nicola Hogg".

Nicola Hogg
General Manager – Border & Visa
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment