



MP for Palmerston North

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety Deputy Leader of the House

Minister of Immigration

Minister for ACC

MOIA 13

02 MAR 2020

Gracien

fyi-request-12122-6cbb518a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Gracien

Thank you for your Official Information Act request of 31 January 2020 through the FYI.org.nz website, in which you asked:

In the last update, Government updates told there will be new NZRP [New Zealand Residence Programme] from 1st January 2020.

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

Today is 31st January 2020 and still there is no update on new NZRP. When can we expect it?

Discussions on residency policy are underway, meanwhile residency applications continue to be processed at the normal rate.

Residency policy is an important one and should not be rushed. We're looking at what the best options are, and then discussing these with our coalition and confidence supply partners. The most important issues to consider are the policy goals – immigration needs to serve New Zealand's interests: that includes helping us build a sustainable, productive and inclusive economy and society while supporting our humanitarian responsibilities.

Previously, the NZRP would include a Planning Range, which set the upper and lower number for residence visa approvals. We have decided to replace the Planning Range with a more targeted approach that focuses on the management of specific residence visa types.

I expect to announce a decision on the NZRP in the first half of the year.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my response to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

I hope you find this information helpful. Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely

Hon Iain Lees-Galloway
Minister of Immigration