

# Hon Iain Lees-Galloway

---



**MP for Palmerston North**

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety Deputy Leader of the House

Minister of Immigration

Minister for ACC

14/07/2020

MPOL 369

Tammy

[fyi-request-13099-0cc5a7be@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13099-0cc5a7be@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Tammy

Thank you for contacting me about the New Zealand Residence Programme (NZRP) and Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) visa applications.

Immigration New Zealand continues to process residency applications at the same rate as they did under the previous NZRP planning range. We are planning to replace the planning range with a more targeted approach that focuses on the management of specific resident visa types, but the COVID-19 Pandemic has meant we have needed to prioritise other urgent matters. Announcements will be made in due course.

Meanwhile I have ensured that both the priority and non-priority queues are being processed.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Iain Lees-Galloway'.

Hon Iain Lees-Galloway  
**Minister of Immigration**