



24 NOV 2020

Singh

fyi-request-14097-4705c9b5@requests.fyi.org.nz

File No: DOIA 2021 – 0965

Dear Singh

Thank you for your email on 9 November 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

- 1. I would like to know the total number of case officer working on SMC files in manukau branch*
- 2. Total number of SMC files on which all the case officers are working.*

Our response

Immigration New Zealand (INZ) has Skilled Residence queues containing Skilled Migrant Category and Resident from Work visa applications that are awaiting allocation to an immigration officer. The applications are not separated by type.

- 1. I would like to know the total number of case officer working on SMC files in manukau branch*

I can advise that as of 16 November 2020, there were 71 immigration officers who assess Skilled Residence applications at the Manukau office.

- 2. Total number of SMC files on which all the case officers are working.*

I can advise that as of 16 November 2020, INZ held 3,258 Skilled Residence applications which had been allocated to an immigration officer for assessment, and which were not yet completed.

I can advise generally that the New Zealand Residence Program (NZRP) Planning Range sets the upper and lower number for residence visa approvals. The last NZRP ran from 1 July 2018 until 31 December 2019 and included a Planning Range of 50,000 to 60,000 residence approvals.

The Government is currently reviewing its approach to the NZRP and is considering replacing the planning range with a more targeted approach that focuses on management of specific residence visa types. In the meantime, INZ will continue to process applications at same volume and with the same level of resourcing as the previous NZRP allowed for. The INZ website remains the best place for up-to-date information on processing timeframes:

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/waiting-for-a-visa/how-long-it-takes-to-process-your-visa-application>

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Chung Man Charmaine Ho, Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at Charmaine.Ho@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Hogg', written in a cursive style.

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