

Matt Brown
fyi-request-16075-7a153ebb@requests.fyi.org.nz

22 July 2021

Dear Matt Brown,

RE: OIA 21-22-05 COVID-19 Support Instructions

Thank you for your email of 14 July 2021 requesting the following information:

1. A copy of the "Covid-19 Support Instructions" NZTE is using.
2. A count of how many visa applications NZTE has supported in each of the "border exception criteria" resulting from those instructions.

We have transferred part of your request to Immigration New Zealand.

Regarding Question One, the COVID-19 Support Instructions you refer is a part of a quote from Immigration New Zealand General Manager of Visa Operations, Nicola Hogg. This information refers to COVID-19 Support Instructions Immigration New Zealand has received and not NZTE. As such, this information is not held by us but is believed to be held by Immigration New Zealand.

In these circumstances, we are required by Section 14 of the Official Information Act to transfer part of your request. You will hear further from a representative of Immigration New Zealand concerning that part of your request.

Regarding Question Two, NZTE has written letters of support for 10 visa applicants in 2021. NZTE would note that the Border Exemption Criteria you have quoted, again, is in reference to Immigration New Zealand. NZTE does not liaise directly with Immigration New Zealand on a specific application so as to maintain the independence and integrity of the visa and immigration process.

For NZTE's purposes we consider this request closed.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely,



Melissa Trochon
Director - Board and Ministerial