



29 March 2022

A KS

fyi-request-17478-328c9380@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2122-1722/1723

Dear A KS

Thank you for your email of 1 March 2022 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

1:- I want to refer to your response to one old EOI

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F17478%2Fresponse%2F68040%2Fattach%2F6%2FDOIA%25202122%25201067%2520Appendix%2520one.pdf&data=04%7C01%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7C0ff453cfe94d76c01808d9fb5daf98%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C637817202657405329%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&odata=11tJmBtqN2RB1mqSjCMkIT%2BLo95lt3xS6xpoLi1MXd0%3D&reserved=0>

If we check the list of documents from 26th March till 14 July 2021, there are 11 documents related to Parents residency visa. If possible, can you provide all these 11 documents (except the one you provided in the latest OIA)

2:- In the same response, there is a document on 20 Oct 2021 regarding long term visitor visas for parents. Can you provide that document too?

The documentation requested here remains under active consideration at this time. Therefore, MBIE is continuing to withhold these documents in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. We do not consider that the withholding of this information is outweighed by public interest considerations in making the information available.

Thank you, also, for your email of 1 March 2022 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

1:- Will the NZ border opening and visa processing effective Oct 2022 , going to consider restarting the selection of Parent Residency EOIs too?

2: If no, what is the plan of INZ to reopen this category or even starting a review in 2022 ?

3:- Can you tell how many Parent and grandparent visitor visas (and count of persons) are active at the moment, Secondly, how many visas out of them will expire after Oct 1st,2022?

Response:

Parent Resident Visa category expression of interest selections have been suspended since 2016. Immigration New Zealand was due to make the first selections under the current criteria in May 2020, but selections were further suspended due to the impacts of COVID-19 on visa processing. It is now expected that selections of expressions of interest will resume once a review of this category has been undertaken.

The planned review of the Parent Resident Visa category will look at barriers to access, including the income thresholds and ways to manage the backlog of expressions of interest. Some preliminary work on reviewing the Parent Resident Visa category commenced in March 2021, however substantive work on this review is not expected until the second half of 2022.

The data associated with part 3 can be found below in the tables attached as Annex One.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Craig', is positioned above the printed name.

Andrew Craig

Manager Immigration (Skills and Residence) Policy

Annex One

Total number of applicants currently waiting for a Grandparent and Parent Visitor Visa

There are 206 principal applicants waiting for the decision of a Grandparent or Parent Visitor Visa.

In addition, there are 91 secondary applicants waiting for the decision of a Grandparent and Parent Visitor Visa.

Total number of people who currently hold a Grandparent and Parent Visitor Visa

There are 2145 principal applicants who hold a Grandparent and Parent Visitor Visa. Fewer than five of these people have visas that expire after 1 October 2022.

In addition, 953 secondary applicants currently hold a Grandparent and Parent Visitor Visa. Fewer than five of these people have visas that expire after 1 October 2022.