



1 September 2023

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Tēnā koe Joh

**OIA request 23/24 0078 Request for information on the processing of citizenship by grant applications.**

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 4 August 2023.

You requested –

1. *Could I please have the processing status of citizenship by grant applications submitted in September 2022 (online only) and the number of unassigned applications, received in this period, broken down by workstreams.*
2. *Can you please provide application status in each workstream by Birth Country Philippines, for all online citizenship applications submitted on the month of September 2022?*
3. *Can you please provide application status in each workstream by Birth Country for all online citizenship applications submitted on date: September 2, 2022?*
4. *What are the criteria for the urgent applications under employment:*
  - *Employment and deployment*
  - *You may meet this criterion if you need citizenship to:*
  - *start a new job,*

*Is a working holiday visa overseas part of this "start new job"?*

In response to your request, I can provide you with the following information.

**Questions one, two and three**

Please refer to Appendix A attached. Appendix A provides you with a breakdown of the following information:

- Table one – Citizenship by grant applications submitted online in September 2022 by workstream and status.
- Table two – Citizenship by grant applications submitted online in September 2022, with the birth country Philippines, by workstream and status.
- Table three – Citizenship by grant applications submitted online on 2 September 2022 by country of birth, workstream and status.

#### Question four

I can advise that this information is accessible via a proactively released Official Information Act response 2122-0786 available here: [https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/OIA-Releases-2022/\\$file/OIA-2122-0786.pdf](https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/OIA-Releases-2022/$file/OIA-2122-0786.pdf). As such, I must refuse this portion of your request pursuant to section 18(d) of the Act: that the information requested is publicly available.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on its website. All requestor data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-Requests-2>.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KRAGGETT', written in a cursive style.

Kate Raggett  
Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence  
Service Delivery and Operations