



13 October 2023

Ref: DOIA 2324-0656

Saska Hayes

Email: fyi-request-23859-19055612@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Saska

Thank you for your email of 16 August 2023, which was transferred to the office of the Minister of Immigration on 24 August and subsequently transferred to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on 20 September, requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

I request all cabinet papers that mention Refugee Claimants from 1995 to today

On 31 August you were contacted by the Minister's office to request that you narrow the scope of your request as the range of the documents you had requested was so broad that it may have had to refuse your request due to substantial collation. In response you refined your request to the following:

By way of clarification I am interested in policy documents or correspondence that discuss refugee claimants access to services such as education, health and social welfare.

On 25 September, by telephone and subsequently by email, you agreed that in the interest of timeliness you would limit your request to 10 documents that MBIE had identified at that time, as a more thorough search would take a long time to complete. You also agreed that, while some information may be held by other agencies, MBIE would not transfer your request to other agencies at this time.

Please find the enclosed documents indicated in the table below relevant to your request.

Documents released

#	Date	Description	Decision
1	22 September 2005	Paper – History of Immigration Settlement Policy to 2005	Information in scope presented as extracts, remaining information out of scope
2	January 2003	Briefing – Vote: Immigration. Proposal: Refugee Status Branch – additional baseline funding	Released in full

3	23 May 2022	Press Release – Enhanced security checks in and outside New Zealand	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a)
4	22 November 2019	Email – The Policy and Budget funding background to the allowance paid to people released on conditions [UNCLASSIFIED]	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) and out of scope
5	May 2002	Press release – Budget 2002 Decision - Community based accommodation – Media Statements	Released in full
6	February 2002	Briefing – Vote: Immigration. Proposal: Community-Based Accommodation for Border Refugee Status Claimants	Released in full
7	January 2004	Briefing – Vote(s): Immigration. Proposal: Meeting immigration-related international obligations	Released in full
8	18 July 2002	Briefing - Funding For Auckland Refugee Council Inc's Hostel	Released in full
9	November 2022	MBIE Memo - Increasing Financial Support for a Small Group of Refugee or Protected Person Claimants	Some Information withheld under section 9(2)(h)
10	3 April 2020	MBIE Memo - Increasing Financial Support to Asylum Claimants	Some Information withheld under section 9(2)(h)

Please note some information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons;
- 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege;
- Some information is redacted that is out of scope of the request

I do not consider that the withholding of this information is outweighed by public interest considerations in making the information available.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact OIA@mbie.govt.nz.

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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Foley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sam Foley

Manager Immigration (International and Humanitarian) Policy

Labour, Science and Enterprise, MBIE