



18 December 2023

Azaria Bialik

fyi-request-24973-47d37a97@requests.fyi.org.nz

DOIA 2324-1214

Tēnā koe Azaria,

Thank you for your email of 1 December 2023 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

Could you kindly inform me whether, in the lead-up to the elections or subsequent to the introduction of the new government, INZ received any directives to halt or modify the application assessment procedures for individuals who had already been issued their ITA under the parent visa category?

On 8 December 2023, we emailed you seeking clarification on the following points:

If you were asking whether it is the *Minister of Immigration* and/or *Associate Minister of Immigration* who has directed Immigration New Zealand to halt or modify the application assessment procedures for individuals who had already been issued their ITA under the parent visa category?

If you could please specify the exact period, you are after when you indicate '*in the lead up to the election*'?

On 13 December 2023, you clarified the following:

My desire is to learn if the change of government effected the processing instructions for the Parent Resident Visa applications. I would like to know if INZ received any directives to halt or modify the application assessment procedures for individuals who had already been issued their ITA under the parent visa category.

In terms of timelines, I am particularly interested in the decisions and instructions provided from 24 November 2023 onward.

Our Response

From 24 November 2023 to 14 December 2023, there were no directives of the type you specify requiring Immigration New Zealand to make changes to its approach of assessing applications for individuals who had already been issued an Invitation to Apply under the Parent Resident Visa category.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the Ministry's response to your request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact inzoias@mbie.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jock Gilray', written in a cursive style.

Jock Gilray
Director Visa
Chief Operating Officer Branch
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment