



11 April 2024

Ethan Harwood

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DOIA 2324-2071

Tēnā koe Ethan

Thank you for your email of 21 March 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*I am writing to request information pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982. My inquiry is aimed at obtaining detailed data on Family Stream residence applications submitted by individuals diagnosed with a heart-related condition known as cardiomyopathy, specifically during the period from 01 February 2014 to 01 February 2024 (finalised applications only).*

*Information Sought:*

*The data requested pertains to applicants with cardiomyopathy and encompasses the following aspects, with a request for the information to be broken down annually within the specified period for finalised applications only:*

- 1. Total number of Family Stream residence applicants processed with cardiomyopathy listed in their application.*
- 2. The count of these applicants categorised as ASH versus Not ASH for this condition.*
- 3. A comparison of the number of these applicants who were granted a medical waiver versus those who were declined a waiver with this condition.*
- 4. The final outcomes of residence applications for individuals, detailing the number approved versus the number declined.*

*Format of Response:*

*For clarity and ease of analysis, I request that the information be provided in a tabular format, organised annually within the timeframe of 01 February 2014 to 01 February 2024 (finalised applications only).*

In order to obtain the requested information, Immigration New Zealand (INZ) staff would need to manually assess thousands of applications, and would require a significant amount of effort to identify, retrieve and collate this information. This task would remove staff from their core duties and the greater public interest would not be served. MBIE is therefore refusing your request under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

In accordance with section 18A of the Act, I have considered whether fixing a charge under section 15 or extending the time limit under section 15A would enable the request to be granted but it is my view it would not. In accordance with section 18B of the Act, I have considered whether consulting with you would remove the reason for refusal, however, in my view it would not as to obtain this information would inevitably involve the manual search of applications.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact [inzoias@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:inzoias@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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Watson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'S' being particularly large and stylized.

Sarah Watson  
**Manager Operations Support**  
Chief Operation Officer Immigration Branch  
Immigration New Zealand  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment