

20 May 2024

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OIA 29351

Tēnā koe Noah Fitzgerald

I refer to your email of 3 May 2024 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Could you please provide me with a list based on country and year of consular loan payments made to New Zealanders overseas.

Could you please also provide me with the total outstanding balance across all loans, the average loan amount, the highest loan amount and lowest loan amount.

On 8 May 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) contacted you to advise that responding to your request as currently worded would capture a significant volume of information. As such, it would be likely that your request would be refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as it would require substantial collation. In the same email the Ministry proposed the following rescope of your request:

Could you please provide me with a list based on country and year of consular loan payments made to New Zealanders overseas from 2014 to date (3 May 2024)?

Could you please also provide me with the total outstanding balance across all loans, the average loan amount, the highest loan amount and lowest loan amount?

The Ministry advised that if we did not hear back from you by 13 May 2024 regarding the above proposed rescope, this request would be refused in full under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation.

As to date we are yet to receive a reply from you therefore, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the OIA.

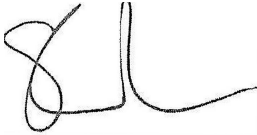
Should you wish to make a refined request, please contact enquires@mfat.govt.nz.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at:
DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

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

Sarah Corbett
for Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade