

9 July 2024

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Tēnā koe Josh

OIA request 23/24 1073 Request for information relating to online citizenship by grant applications

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 13 June 2024. This request was received in response to OIA2324-0999, released to you on 13 June 2024.

You requested -

Thank you for your assistance. Could you please elaborate on how the DIA defines each workstream? Also, I would appreciate it if you could provide the nationality details of each applicant (for the period between June 30th, 2023, and July 3rd, 2023), along with whether they are adults or minors, as per my request?

In response to your request, please refer to Appendices A and B attached alongside this letter. I note no paper citizenship applications were received for the time period specified, so the data is only for online citizenship applications.

The response has been split into two tables for applications as including the country of birth in the first table and a breakdown of applications by Adult and Child during the same period for table two. It is important to note due to the small number of applications, data with counts of less than 5 are masked with <5 and does not include row/column totals, to prevent identification of individuals.

Please note the following Workstream descriptions when referring to the appendices:

Workstream 1 - Applications currently being processed, no new applications are filtered here.

Workstream 2 - All applications start in an initial workstream and are either filtered automatically into another workstream (described below) or remain in this workstream until they are picked up by staff to assess. The filter is run on all applications weekly to assess automated checks.

Workstream 3 - Online applications that meet all automated checks.

Workstream 4 - Applications that need to be assessed under the Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982.

Workstream 5 - Online applications that meet all automated checks except the presence in New Zealand or the English language requirements. Further manual assessment is required.

Workstream 6 – Digitised paper applications that meet all automated checks.

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 the DIA 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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

Julia Taylor

Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence Service Delivery and Operations