



Antony Andrews

Fyi-request-4442-6d7aade9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 1617-0194

Dear Mr Andrews

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) received on 14 August 2016 requesting the following information:

I would like to request under Official information Act- On average, how long it takes for an application once received by Immigration branch in Auckland to be assigned to an Immigration officer? I am only interested in getting this information for residence application based on partnership.

On the 15 August you confirmed that you required the information for the Auckland Central, Manukau and Henderson Area Offices.

On the 25 August you confirmed that the average can be calculated for residence applications received in the 12 months prior to the date of your request.

Our response

Your request is refused in reliance on section 18 (f) that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

While our reporting system does record who the current Immigration Officer is, this may not be the first Immigration Officer assigned to assess the application. In order to answer your request, we would need to establish the date the application was first assigned to an Immigration Officer and unfortunately our system does not retain the allocation history. Therefore, to be able to accurately answer your request, we would need to manually check all applications.

Providing this information would remove Ministry staff from their core duties and therefore the greater public interest in the effective and efficient administration of the public service would not be served.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in both cases, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.



You have the right to contest the decision on this request by seeking an investigation and review of that decision by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require further assistance, please contact Neil Bailey, Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at neil.bailey@mbie.govt.nz

Yours sincerely



Geoff Scott
Assistant General Manager
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
