



1 May 2017

Benjamin Watson

fyi-request-5633-47db5129@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 1617-1194

Dear Mr Watson

Thank you for your email of 29 March 2017 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

'...how the law treats de facto relationships applying for a partnership-based visa, as opposed to married couples (obviously where one of the parties is an NZ citizen or already holds a visa).

I request information regarding the policy behind the current immigration instructions, especially those relating to partnership-based visa applications'

You were contacted by Frédérique Bertrand on 7 April 2017 to clarify the scope of your request. You confirmed that you were more specifically looking for *information and documents explaining why immigration treats de facto and married couples the same way, when other New Zealand legislation treats them differently.*

Our response

Two documents have been identified within the scope of the clarified request:

| No | Date | Document type | Title | Redactions |
|----|------|----------------|---|------------|
| 1 | 2003 | Cabinet paper | Recognition of marriage and de facto relationships for immigration purposes: second paper | none |
| 2 | 2003 | Cabinet minute | CAB Min (03) 18/4A | none |

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Frederique Bertrand, Senior Policy Advisor, Immigration Policy, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment at frederique.bertrand@mbie.govt.nz

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Yours sincerely

Karl Simpson
Acting Manager, Immigration Policy
Labour, Science and Enterprise