



Te Tari Taiwhenua Internal Affairs

19 MAR 2018

John McIntyre
fyi-request-7239-7e647cc8@requests.fyi.org.nz

45 Pipitea Street, Wellington 6011
Phone +64 4 495 7200
Fax +64 4 382 3589
Email OIA@dia.govt.nz
Website www.dia.govt.nz

Dear Mr McIntyre

Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request OIA 17/19-0264

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 19 February 2018.

You requested

1. *Details of most recently approved applications (at least 5) under s9(1)(c) for the categories of:*
 - a. *Entitlement to reside and Intention*
 - b. *Good Character*
2. *Details of at least 5 other applications approved under s9(1)(c) under any of the other categories*

Please find the requested information attached as Appendix A.

As a time frame was not included in the scope of your request, the Department has reviewed applicable citizenship applications approved under section 9(1)(c) of the Citizenship Act 1977 from 2012 to 2018.

Applications approved by the Minister under the provisions of the Citizenship Act you have requested prior to 2012 are not easily identifiable and are unable to be reviewed without substantial collation or research. Details of applications approved under Section 9(1)(c) prior to 2012 are therefore refused under Section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982.

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.

Yours sincerely

Briget Ridden
Manager Business Development and Support
Service Delivery and Operations

Citizenship by grant applications approved by the Minister of Internal Affairs under section 9(1)(c) of the Citizenship Act 1977 between 2012 and 2018

1a. Applications approved under section 9(1)(c) who did not meet the entitlement and intention to reside requirements

Records held by the Department confirm that the Minister of Internal Affairs has not approved any citizenship applications between 2012 and 2018, under section 9(1)(c) of the Citizenship Act 1977 where the application did not meet both the entitlement to reside and intention to reside requirements.

1b. Applications approved by the Minister of Internal Affairs under section 9(1)(c) who did not meet the good character requirement

Criteria not met: Good Character		Date Approved ¹
1	Applicant met all criteria except for the good character requirement. Applicant was deregistered from citizenship by descent due to it being identified that their parents had submitted falsified birth records. The applicants' circumstances were exceptional as they had little control over their family's actions. The Minister agreed with the Departments recommendation to approve due to exceptional circumstances and granted New Zealand citizenship.	August 2017

2. Applications approved under section 9(1)(c) who did not meet one or more requirements

Criteria not met: Entitlement to Reside		Date Approved
1	Applicant was a child who met all criteria except for entitlement to reside. They had resided in New Zealand since they were a baby and been in the care of Oranga Tamariki. They grew up in New Zealand having minimal ties to their country of birth and no rights to reside there. The Minister agreed with the Department that it is in the public interest to protect the interests of a child and granted New Zealand citizenship.	February 2018
Criteria not met: Presence		Date Approved
2	Applicant met all criteria except for presence in New Zealand. They did not meet the presence requirement due to overseas travel to spend time with a terminally ill family member and subsequently attend their funeral. The Minister agreed with the Departments recommendation to accept a shorter period of presence and granted New Zealand citizenship.	February 2018
3	Applicant met all criteria except for presence in New Zealand. They did not meet the presence requirement due to overseas travel for work and to care for sick family members. As travel was a core component of the applicants' career and would continue to be, the Minister agreed with the Departments recommendation to accept a shorter period of presence and granted New Zealand citizenship.	February 2018
4	Applicant met all criteria except for presence in New Zealand. They did not meet the presence requirement due to overseas travel for work. Travel will continue to be a core component of the applicants' employment. The Minister agreed with the Departments recommendation to accept a shorter period of presence and granted New Zealand citizenship.	February 2018
Criteria not met: Full Capacity		Date Approved
5	Applicant for citizenship met all criteria except for being of full capacity. The Minister agreed with the Departments recommendation to accept that the applicant was unable to meet the full capacity requirement due to their medical condition and granted New Zealand citizenship	February 2018

¹ This reflects the date in which an approved application was returned to the Department from the Ministers office and is not reflective of the date in which the person became a New Zealand citizen. Applicants approved for a grant of citizenship are not citizens until they attend a ceremony and make the oath or affirmation of allegiance and receive their citizenship certificate.