



Ref: DOIA 1819-0355

2 October 2018

Mr Aaron Martin fyi-request-8603-69a28523@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Martin,

Frefer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) received on 4 September 2018 requesting the following information:

"If in previous years, you are associated with a gang - What is the process NZ Customs, Interpol and other government agencies alert other countries which then leads to being denied entry to countries purely on the fact that there was gang involvement in a prior life.

This has now happened twice within the last 12 months with entry being denied.

If this is no longer the case- and an individual is being discriminated against because of prior connections, how would one that has now dissociated themselves with the club, go about travelling with no prior convictions."

An email was sent to you on 5 September 2018 requesting you to clarify if the situation you are describing concerns New Zealand citizens travelling to other countries. As you have not responded this is still unclear. We have therefore attempted to provide some general information which may be of assistance.

## **Our Response**

For clarification, Immigration New Zealand (INZ) does not monitor the arrival and departure of New Zealand citizens.

Decisions on entry into New Zealand by persons who are non-citizens are made by INZ in accordance with immigration requirements, such as those contained in the Immigration Act 2009 and Immigration Instructions. To ensure non-citizens meet immigration requirements INZ may receive information related to an individual from another source in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993. The source, and the information that is provided may in some cases be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982, for example under section 6(c) as the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

INZ is authorised to share information with other government agencies under applicable law and in accordance with the provisions of Privacy Act 1993. INZ may also use this information to determine a person's entitlement to board a flight to New Zealand. Personal information is not shared with airline check-in agents. When a person checks in to board a flight, the check-in agent only sees a boarding instruction provided by INZ that is based on information sourced by INZ, held by INZ, or provided to INZ in any application that has been submitted.

INZ is not able to provide you with information about a person's eligibility to enter another country, for example a New Zealand citizen travelling to or between different jurisdictions.

Each country will have its own unique requirements and laws relating to entry. Decisions would be made based on information that is required by that country as part of any application. There may also be consent provided as part of any application that allows that country to obtain information about you from another country.

Personal information may be requested under the Privacy Act 1993. This enables an individual to access personal information a New Zealand government agency holds about them. You have the right to request the correction of personal information an agency holds about you.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
P O Box 10-152
WELLINGTON

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Robyn Webster, Business Advisor, Business Support, Immigration New Zealand at robyn.webster@mbie.govt.nz

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Hogg

General Manager – Compliance, Risk and Intelligence Services Immigration New Zealand

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment