



3 October 2019

John Luke  
(by email: [fyi-request-11147-1dfb730d@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-11147-1dfb730d@requests.fyi.org.nz))

File No: DOIA 1920-0406

Dear Mr Luke,

I refer to your request received on 5 September 2019 requesting the following information from Immigration New Zealand ("INZ"):

- *I noted on the recent news: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/115334824/call-to-deport-migrant-bosses-who-badly-exploit-migrant-workers> I would like to know how many employers have been deported under the mentioned Immigration Act (employers who offend within 10 years of getting residency can have their right to live here revoked if they are successfully prosecuted for migrant worker abuse) since the inception of such law? Also, I would like to know if they are not deported, what other punishment they will get under the immigration law and do you have stats on how many migrant bosses who badly exploit migrant workers have been charged under immigration law?*

Our response

Since the introduction in 2015 of section 161 of the Immigration Act 2009 there have not been any employers who have been deported from New Zealand due to exploitation of migrant workers. A deportation liability notice was issued under section 161(1)(b) for one employer in 2015 who was prosecuted for exploiting workers.

There have been 15 prosecutions of employers exploiting migrant workers since the law was introduced in 2015.

Penalties that can be imposed on an employer are listed in section 357 of the Immigration Act 2009 and include fines and/or imprisonment. Such convictions may result in the employer becoming liable for deportation from New Zealand if certain criteria are met.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Martin Prowse, Business Advisor, Business Support, Immigration New Zealand at [martin.prowse@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:martin.prowse@mbie.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

Stephen Vaughan  
General Manager – Verification and Compliance  
Immigration New Zealand  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

