



23 December 2019

John Luke  
(by email: [fyi-request-11652-5adb18da@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-11652-5adb18da@requests.fyi.org.nz))

File No: DOIA 1920-0790

Dear Mr Luke,

I refer to your request received on 14 November 2019 requesting the following information from Immigration New Zealand ("INZ"):

- *There are 17 people has been granted residency through alleged 'paper' company. I would like to request an update information around what action has INZ taken about that 17 individuals and has their visa been cancel?  
Also, I would like to understand what sort of standard process are in place, if someone's visa or RV are obtain by fraud.  
Besides that 17 individuals, has INZ had any other cases that people obtain their visa by fraud and what is the outcome of their visas. Can you please provide me with the status in the 2017, 2018, 2019 (to date)?*

Our response

To protect the integrity of our compliance activity and to ensure the privacy of any individuals or companies is maintained during any investigative process, INZ will not confirm whether or not we are investigating.


The part of your request relating to the 17 individuals is therefore refused in reliance on section 18(b) of the Official Information Act 1982.

Information relating to outcomes of cases where people have obtained their visa by fraud is refused in reliance on section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information is not recorded in an easily reportable format. A manual search of all complaints received for each year relating to fraud would be required and this amounts to around 2,000 complaints received each year. Every complaint received is assessed on its own merits and appropriate action is taken.

In accordance with section 18A of the Official Information Act 1982 we have considered whether extending the timeframe for a response to your request or charging would be appropriate however it is our belief that neither would assist in being able to respond to your request.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Vaughan', written over the typed name.

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