



12 DEC 2019

Nirav Shastri

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File No: DOIA 1920 – 0826

Dear Nirav Shastri

Thank you for your email on 21 November 2019, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

- 1. Right now how long immigration taking to allocate case officer to SMC application?*
- 2. How many new staff hired for SMC application?*
- 3. I want know that now CO allocated on which month, date application.*

Example:- Today is 21st November so today CO allocated to 6th April 2019 Lodgement application.

- 4. There is any plan from immigration to decrease this processing timeframe?*

Our response

- 1. Right now how long immigration taking to allocate case officer to SMC application?*

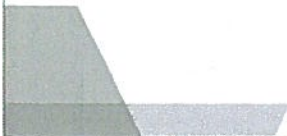
We can advise that as of 2 December 2019, the oldest unallocated applications held by Immigration New Zealand (INZ) under the Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) are those received on 11 December 2018.

- 2. How many new staff hired for SMC application?*

We can advise that INZ have not recently recruited any additional immigration officers for the exclusive purpose of processing SMC applications.

- 3. I want know that now CO allocated on which month, date application.*

Example:- Today is 21st November so today CO allocated to 6th April 2019 Lodgement application.



Please refer to our response to question 1.

4. There is any plan from immigration to decrease this processing timeframe?

We can advise that INZ is required to deliver on the New Zealand Residence Programme (NZRP) as set by the Minister of Immigration. The current NZRP runs from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019 and is on track to be delivered. Current inflows of applications considerably exceed the number allowed to be decided under the NZRP and as a result a considerable queue has formed with resulting timeframes for allocation of applications. If volumes of applications received continue to exceed the numbers of applications able to be decided under the NZRP, timeframes will continue to grow.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Chung Man Charmaine Ho, Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at Charmaine.Ho@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Hogg
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Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment