

25 FEB 2020

Vidarbh Sakshee
fyi-request-11968-ed6adca7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Sakshee

Official Information Act 1982 request

I am writing in response to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 2 January 2020 made to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). On 29 January 2020 MBIE transferred the following part of your request to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) for response:

The number of asylum seekers (by country) who were recognized as refugees or protected persons following an appeal against a decision of a refugee and protection officer

In response to your request, the Ministry does not hold this information. The Immigration and Protection Tribunal (the Tribunal) hears appeals against decisions of refugee and protection officers relating to applications to be recognised as a refugee or protected person. However, Tribunals are excluded from the operation of the OIA, as outlined in section 2(6)(b) of the OIA. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the OIA, as the Ministry does not hold the information and there are no grounds for believing the information is held by another department, Minister of the Crown, organisation, or local authority subject to the OIA.

You may be interested to note that the Tribunal publishes its decisions online, including decisions about the recognition of a person as a refugee or protected person. If you would like to search these decisions, they can be found at: forms.justice.govt.nz/search/IPT/RefugeeProtection/

Additionally, the Tribunal also publishes its Annual Reports on the Ministry's website. These reports make reference to the number and disposal of appeal applications per year. These can be found at: justice.govt.nz/tribunals/immigration/immigration-and-protection/annual-reports-statistics/

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact Jerram Watts, Acting Team Leader, Media and External Relations, by calling (04) 918 8836; or emailing media@justice.govt.nz

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

I trust this information assists.

Yours sincerely



Jacquelyn Shannon
Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

Ref: 80352