



10 AUG 2020

Sunny Kumar
fyi-request-13311-0f6a0722@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-0170

Dear Sunny Kumar

Thank you for your email on 17 July 2020 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), the following information:

I would like to know the answers to the following questions regarding partnership visas being processed at the Hamilton INZ branch:

- *How many partnership visa applications were pending in Aug'2019 (i.e. yet to be allocated to a case manager)?*
- *The last application to be allocated to a case manager was submitted to INZ on what date?*
- *How many applications were assigned to case managers in the month of January 2020?*
- *How many applications were assigned to case managers in the month of February 2020?*
- *What was the normal timeframe for partnership visa approvals from June 2019 to April 2020?*

I am writing to advise you that the Ministry will provide a response but needs to extend the time available to answer your request. The Ministry's response will be with you no later than 1 September 2020. The reason for the extension relies on s15A(1)(b) of the OIA - consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot be made within the original time limit.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of our decision to extend the time limit by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

I will respond to you sooner if I am able to.

Yours sincerely

Jeannie Melville
National Manager (Education and Tourism) – Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment