



27 AUG 2020

Erin Zheng

fyi-request-13421-38026644@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-0240

Dear Erin Zheng

Thank you for your email on 30 July 2020 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA), the following information:

I would like to request the following information regarding Skilled Migrant Category backlog.

- 1. May I have the numbers of SMC and WTR applications which are still waiting case officers? Please breakdown the numbers to each month based on the lodgement date from Dec 2018 to July 2020.*
- 2. According to https://mbienz.shinyapps.io/migration_data_explorer/ there were a total of 4992 WTR and SMC applications accepted in June 2020. Could you please let me know how many of these applications allocated to the general queue and how many of them allocated to the priority queue? And also can I have the numbers for each queue accepted in July?*
- 3. How many applications from the general queues allocated to a case officer during July 2020? How many applications from the priority queue allocated to a case officer during July 2020?*
- 4. May I have the total number of SMC and WTR applications that currently in queue waiting for a case officer?*
- 5. Will INZ consider to resume EOI before the huge backlog cleared?*

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 24 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

Michael Carley
Manager, Operations Support
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment