



29 OCT 2020

Sumya Islam

fyi-request-13900-5e92ca75@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-0729

Dear Ms Islam

Thank you for your email of 2 October 2020 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

- I am writing to request a fortnightly breakdown of the number of onshore applications that were submitted, lodged and are currently in the non-priority queue under the SMC between the following dates and periods:*
 - 15.03.2019 - 31.03.2019 (inclusive)*
 - 01.04.2019 - 14.04.2019 (inclusive)*
 - 15.04.2019 - 30.04.2019 (inclusive)*
 - 01.05.2019 - 15.05.2019 (inclusive)*
- I also would like to request a weekly breakdown of the number of applications in the non-priority queue under the SMC that has been allocated to a case officer from 1.09.2020, up until the date you respond to this request.*

Our response

Immigration New Zealand (INZ) does not have a specific Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) queue but one for 'skilled residence' applications. These applications are SMC and Resident from Work (RFW) and are all processed in the Manukau office. The applications are not split into two separate queues based on the application category. All applications are separated into the stated priorities as per Immigration Instructions A16.1.

Question 1

Fortnightly breakdown of the number of onshore applications that were submitted, lodged and are currently in the non-priority queue under the SMC

Please find the requested information in the below table.

Number of skilled residence applications in the non-priority queue received from 15 March 2019 to 15 May 2019 where the principal applicant is onshore (as at 2 October 2020).

| Date | Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 15 March 2019 – 31 March 2019 | 0 |
| 1 April 2019 – 14 April 2019 | 49 |
| 15 April 2019 – 30 April 2019 | 175 |
| 1 May 2019 – 15 May 2019 | 170 |

Question 2

A weekly breakdown of the number of applications in the non-priority queue under the SMC that has been allocated to a case officer from 1.09.2020, up until the date you respond to this request.

The allocation of applications to Immigration Officers occurs weekly and is effective on the Monday of each week. You have requested the allocation information from 1 September 2020 which is a Tuesday. As such you are being provided the allocation data from 31 August 2020.

Allocation of skilled residence applications from the non-priority queue from 31 August 2020 to 26 October 2020.

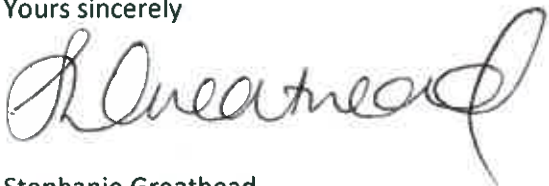
| Week beginning | Non Priority |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 31 August 2020 | 115 |
| 7 September 2020 | 177 |
| 14 September 2020 | 97 |
| 21 September 2020 | 123 |
| 28 September 2020 | 110 |
| 5 October 2020 | 152 |
| 12 October 2020 | 58 |
| 19 October 2020 | 147 |
| 26 October 2020 | 169 |

I trust you find the information helpful.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact Penny Hazlett, Senior Business Advisor penny.hazlett@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Greathead
General Manager – Border and Visa Operations (Acting)
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment