



24 DEC 2020

ljb630710

fyi-request-13991-9ba57c1f@requests.fyi.org.nz

File No: DOIA 2021 – 0823

Dear ljb630710

Thank you for your email on 16 October 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

- 1. Total count of EOIs (expressions of interest) and count of persons currently in the Parents residency visa pool.*
- 2. Count of EOIs and count of persons which have been submitted before 15 September 2018 and are still in the pool.*
- 3. Count of new EOIs and count of persons which have been submitted after 24th Feb 2020.*
- 4. Count of EOIs and count of persons which have been withdrawn between 8th Oct 2019 and now.*
- 5. Any documents or communication emails showing considerations of reopening Parents residency visa EOIs*

Our response

Earlier this year, the Government announced it would reopen the Parent Resident Visa Category in February 2020 with new criteria, with Immigration New Zealand (INZ) selecting expressions of interest from May 2020. Due to COVID-19, selections for these expressions of interest have been suspended until further notice. INZ is continuing to reassess and determine when these programmes can resume.

- 1. Total count of EOIs and count of persons currently in the Parents residency visa pool.**

As of 20 October 2020, there are 5,294 parent EOI applications and 8,527 persons in the parent residence visa EOI pool.

- 2. Count of EOIs and count of persons which have been submitted before 15 September 2018 and are still in the pool.**



As of 20 October 2020, there have been 3,654 parent EOI applications lodged with 6,104 applicants accepted for processing before 15 September 2018 still in the parent residence visa EOI pool.

3. Count of new EOIs and count of persons which have been submitted after 24th Feb 2020.

As of 20 October 2020, there are 1,350 parent EOIs with 1,952 applicants which were lodged after 24 February 2020

4. Count of EOIs and count of persons which have been withdrawn between 8th Oct 2019 and now.

As of 20 October 2020, 128 Parent EOIs with 214 applicants have been withdrawn between 8 October 2019 and 19 October 2020.

5. Any documents or communication emails showing considerations of reopening Parents residency visa EOIs

The documents which answer question 5 of your request are still being prepared. This information will be sent to you separately once a final review of the documents has been completed.

Please note some information will be withheld under:

- Section 9 (2)(a)
- Section 9(2)(g)(i)
- Section 9(2)(h)

You have the right to contest the decision to withhold information by seeking an investigation and review of that decision by the Ombudsman. 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, please contact Adam Jones, Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at adam.jones@mbie.govt.nz.



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI



Yours sincerely

PP Deanne Metcalf

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