



29 March 2021

Ziyun (Evan) Wang

fyi-request-14813-02be639c@requests.fyi.org.nz

File No: DOIA 2021 – 1680

Dear Ziyun

Thank you for your email on 02 March 2021, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

I am writing to kindly request copies of the most recent assessment templates and guidance notes for Immigration Officers and National Managers to follow when considering humanitarian reasons for granting visas to Other Critical Workers to travel to New Zealand.

Our response

'Other critical worker' border exception category requests are not decided based on humanitarian reasons. These requests are submitted by an employer who wishes to bring a critical worker or workers to New Zealand. As such there are no template assessments or guidance notes for humanitarian reasons relating to 'other critical workers'.

As a result, your request for information has been refused under section 18 (e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist.

There is a humanitarian border exception category for individuals, who are not critical workers, to come to New Zealand. If a submission is made to enter New Zealand under the humanitarian category and is approved, an invitation to apply for a critical purpose visitor visa will be issued. If the applicant then applies for a visa based on humanitarian reasons, they may be granted a critical purpose visitor visa.

The attached appendix contains the guidance used by the Henderson office to assess expressions of interest made under the humanitarian border exception category.

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.



Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N Hogg', is centered below the closing. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'N' being particularly large and stylized.

Nicola Hogg
General Manager – Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment