



08/04/2021

Adam Irish
fyi-request-14876-301b9a82@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 2021-1733

Dear Adam,

Thank you for your email of 8 March requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

"I wish to request under the Official Information Act information related to the proposed KiwiBuild Visa. In the 2017 election the Labour party policy was to introduce a temporary work visa "KiwiBuild Visa" to increase the number of builders assist construction and alleviate the housing crisis. What progress was made on this temporary work visa scheme and if it wasn't progressed why was this."

The work undertaken by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) following the 2017 General Election ultimately resulted in the Construction and Infrastructure Skill Shortage List (CISSL) being established in December 2018. This provides an expedited process to support the sector to address immediate skills shortages while long-term development of New Zealand's domestic construction sector work force occurs and relies on existing Essential Skills visa settings.

To-date 10,170 visas have been approved for occupations on the CISSL.

An employer accreditation system is being established as a precondition to hiring Essential Skills visa holders, as part of the reforms to the temporary work visa system which are underway. Additional requirements will be imposed on high risk business models, which includes labour hire companies, to manage the risks of migrant exploitation.

The Cabinet paper *Immigration Settings to Support KiwiBuild* provides further detail and is available here: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/abd8c5cde1/cabinet-paper-immigration-settings-support-kiwibuild.pdf>.

We trust you will find the information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of MBIE's response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Craig
Manager
Immigration (Skills and Residence) Policy
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

