

Hon Michael Wood

MP for Mt Roskill

Minister of Immigration
Minister of Transport
Minister for Auckland

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety
Associate Minister of Finance



MPOL 1068

20 February 2023

Lucia

fyi-request-21470-32575864@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Lucia

Thank you for your correspondence of 20 December 2022, regarding the visitor visa applications for two of your nieces. I appreciate you taking the time to write.

While I understand the situation, as Minister of Immigration, it is not my usual practice to become involved with, or comment on individual cases such as this. I can, however, give you some general information relating to the questions that you have raised.

Immigration officers assess each application on a case-by-case basis against immigration instructions. The officer considers all information provided in the application, as well as prior immigration history. The officer will consider whether there has been any substantive change in circumstances since the breach of visa conditions, whether immigration instructions are now met and if any identified risks can be mitigated.

I note that your nieces were minors at the time they left New Zealand. I am advised that the officer will take this into consideration, whilst weighing all the available information and deciding whether they meet immigration instructions. For visitor visas, the immigration officer must be satisfied that the applicant is unlikely to breach their visa conditions should they be granted one. Evidence of work and living arrangements helps officers decide if applicants are likely to return to their home country at the end of their visit.

For further information, please refer to the Immigration New Zealand (INZ) website:

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/criteria/visitor-visa?nationality=nationality-WSM&country=residence-WSM>

INZ also has a complaint and feedback process, where applicants can submit a complaint about the service received, or where the applicant thinks INZ did not follow the correct process or follow their own instructions. The form can be accessed on the INZ website:

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/contact/complaints/complaint-about-inz>

I trust you find this information helpful and thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Wood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small flourish at the end.

Hon Michael Wood
Minister of Immigration