

Hon Erica Stanford

Minister of Education
Minister of Immigration



5 MAR 2024

MOIA 24-028

M LS

Email: fyi-request-25680-ba80dd56@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear M LS,

Thank you for your email of 9 February 2024, requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

Could you please inform the constructive steps the government has taken to implement the 5-year parent visa which the National party and ACT party promised during their respective election campaigns?

Could you also please inform what the government envisions a potential road-map for the implementation of this visa will look like?

The Government's priority for family settings includes introducing a renewable, five-year visa for parents and grandparents of New Zealand citizens and residents, as set out in the coalition agreement between the National and ACT parties.

I am yet to receive any detailed advice specifically on the design or implementation of a five-year parent and grandparent visa, but I am actively working with officials on determining a work programme that will deliver on our priorities for the immigration portfolio this term.

Please note that designing and implementing new visa products requires significant time and resourcing. Once decisions have been taken on the details of the visa, announcements will be made publicly.

In the meantime, parents remain able to join their children in New Zealand either as a visitor or permanently through existing channels, such as:

- The Parent and Grandparent Visitor Visa, as detailed on Immigration New Zealand's website at: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/about-visa/parent-and-grandparent-multiple-entry-visitor-visa>; or
- The Parent Category Resident Visa, as detailed at: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/visas/visa/parent-resident-visa>.

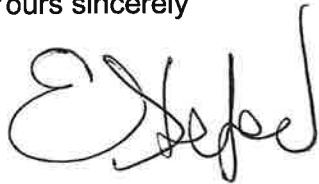
I have identified a briefing titled '2324-1508 – Immigration work programme priorities' which contains information which could be interpreted in scope of your request. This briefing contains some information in relation to the five-year parent visa. However, the relevant information is still under consideration and the remainder of the document is out of scope of your request. I am withholding the information in full under section 9(1)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the

constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact OIA@mbie.govt.nz.

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erica Stanford', written in a cursive style.

Hon Erica Stanford
Minister of Immigration