



7 November 2024

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0005060

Anu Kaloti

Email: fyi-request-28721-fb2979b0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Anu

Thank you for your email of 10 October 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

We have been made aware of several accredited employer work visa holding employees of A1 PLASTER BOARD LIMITED (company number 8044153, NZBN 9429048417921) who have been allegedly exploited by the aforementioned employer. This company was put into liquidation on 18 June 2024. We are also aware that the director of this company has moved to another country in the last few days to avoid responsibility of the liquidation process. The exploited migrant workers have been left with no pathway for justice.

The employees' complaints of exploitation have been upheld. That generally means the employer is likely to be investigated by MBIE and any other relevant government agencies. Please provide:

- 1) Details of the investigation conducted
- 2) Outcome of the investigation including delivery of employees' entitlements and consequences for the employer
- 3) Reasons for not investigating the employer if that is the case

Our Response

MBIE has received an allegation about A1 Plaster Board Limited which has been assigned an investigation number and is waiting for allocation. As such, there is no outcome of an investigation or reasons for not investigating at this time. We are unable to provide any further information while there is an open allegation as doing so could compromise the integrity of any future investigation and impact those involved.

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.

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

Nāku noa, nā

Jason Perry

National Manager Investigations

Immigration Compliance and Investigations