

1 1 APR 2017

Ben Moore

Email: fyi-request-4904-9fee1edf@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 1617-1193

Dear Mr Moore,

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

"All advice, communications, documentation and other relevant information on the visa application (or a possible visa application) by Boy George (George Alan O'Dowd)"

## **Our Response**

Mr O'Dowd submitted a visa application which was approved by Immigration New Zealand in October 2016. All other information relating to this application is being withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect Mr O'Dowd's privacy.

I have considered whether there are any counterbalancing public interest considerations which would outweigh withholding this information under section 9(2)(a) but my view is that there is none.

You have the right to contest the decision to withhold certain information by seeking an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Karen Sionzon, Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at <a href="mailto:Karen.Sionzon@mbie.govt.nz">Karen.Sionzon@mbie.govt.nz</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Elms

Assistant General Manager – Visa Services Immigration New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

