



01 NOV 2018

Azaria Bialik

fyi-request-8609-2f4f302d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 1819-0585

Dear Mr Bialik,

I refer to your official information request, which was received by the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (the Ministry) on 4 October 2018. You requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

Thank you for looking into my request. Considering the fact that the "Parent Resident Visa" scheme was temporary closed for applications in 2016, and new criteria was expected to be announced by June 2018, I would like to pose a few questions to understand the current status of things. 1. From 2016 the cap until June 2018 was set to 4000 visa applications. Could you please let me know how many Expressions of Interest (EOI) are still waiting to be considered, and what is the current distribution between Tier 1 and Tier 2 applications in the pool? 2. According to your recent reply to G S in response to the query "Summary of Immigration NZ's review of the Parent category residence visa", the report kindly provided by you titled "DOCUMENT 1FOR RELEASE 0825 17 18 Reporting on the outcomes of the Parent..." states the following remark as to the future of the category reassessment: "Officials will update you by the end of February to advise what further information can be provided to support you in making decisions regarding the future of the Parent Category. Advice on the future of the Parent Category will be provided alongside the initial options and advice on the resetting of the NZRP." Since the report was prepared in January 2018 and was talking about providing further information by February, is there still some missing information (perhaps the mentioned MSD report) that is required to determine the future of the Parent Resident Visa scheme? Is there a due date for announcing the new criteria for this program? 3. Is there a quota to consider Parent Resident Visa applications for 2018/19?

Our response

Immigration New Zealand currently has 5,512 Expressions of Interest in the Parent Category pool. 5,040 of these are Tier 1, and the remaining 472 are Tier 2.

Since January 2018, Ministry officials have provided the Minister of Immigration with further advice on the Parent Category, which is now under consideration. We cannot at this time confirm when decisions will be announced.

Expressions of Interests that were selected for assessment prior to the selections being closed on 11 October 2016 by the previous Government have continued to be assessed by Immigration New Zealand, and qualifying parents invited to apply for a visa. Since selections were closed, no quotas have been set for processing Parent Category applications, including for 2018/19.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Fraser Stretton at fraser.stretton@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Karen Bishop', written in a cursive style.

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