



MOIA 001

13 FEB 2019

Mr Azaria Bialik

fyi-request-9364-66b43c0c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Bialik

Thank you for your email of 9 January 2019 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

Following the written question by MP Melissa Lee from 07 Dec 2018 number 36373 that you avoided answering, could you please elaborate on what correspondence and reports, by title and date, have you received regarding Parent Category Immigration visa applications since June 2018 when the program was supposed to re-open?

Acknowledging the recent petition by David Barker to "Lift the moratorium on Parent Category Immigration visa applications" collecting over 5500 signatures and proving the public interest in the subject, could you make the correspondence and reports requested above be available to the public under the OIA?

Considering the information available to you at this point, is there any other information that you require to make a decision on the Parent Category Immigration visa?

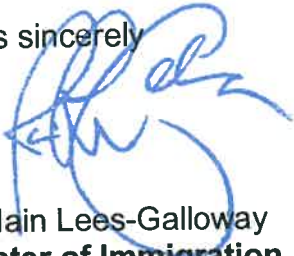
With respect to your request for the title and date of any correspondence and the release of any correspondence on this issue, I am refusing your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

As this matter is still under active consideration I am refusing your request to the title and date of reports, and the release of reports under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act in order to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials, and there are no counterbalancing public interest considerations warranting release under s.9(1).

Please note, however, that once Cabinet has considered the issue any decision or decisions on the Parent Category will be announced and I intend that the relevant Cabinet paper will be proactively released and published on the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment website.

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



Hon Iain Lees-Galloway
Minister of Immigration