



12 September 2023

Tēnā koe

On 4 September 2023, your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) was transferred to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry). You requested the following information:

MFAT's document (number 18) refers to the "High Trust" way in which the Special Ukraine visa programme is being administered vis-a-vis Police Certificates and Medical Certificates, and other concerns have been raised in the documents regarding children, Tuberculosis, criminality, etc.

Following issues with the accredited employer scheme, I would like to request confirmation:

- how many have been placed on social welfare or referred to other support agencies to ensure they are not on the street.*
- how many are relying on Salvation army or other NGOs for social support.*

The Ministry does not centrally report on what type of visa a client holds. Therefore, I am unable to provide you with this information as it is held in notes on individual client files. In order to provide you with this information, Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,

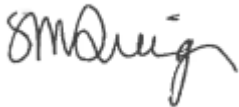
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the Special Ukraine Visa, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Sarah Quigan
Manager
Official Information Team