

13 August 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 19 July 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), requesting information regarding new immigrants to New Zealand.

MBIE has transferred questions 5 and 6 of your original information request to the Ministry of Social Development.

- 5. Please advise how many of the new immigrants to New Zealand for each year for the last 5 years and including current total for 2024 so far at time of processing this request, have received NZ Government or its agencies financial assistance and or Government assisted, or provided housing, can be expressed as a percentage of all adult new immigrants to New Zealand in the mentioned time periods.
- 6. Please provide total cost expended by NZ Government or its agencies for supporting and or housing new immigrants to New Zealand for each year for the last 5 years and including current total for 2024 so far at time of processing this request

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

It is not standard reporting for the Ministry to collect or collate information on a client's immigration status. If the Ministry did record this information, it would be recorded on individual client files meaning Ministry staff would have to manually review a substantial number of files. As such, I refuse your request under 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.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request regarding new immigrants to New Zealand, 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

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Magnus O'Neill

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services