



23 November 2016

GIPAboy

By email: foi+request-2753-57bf5a49@righttoknow.org.au

In reply please quote:

FOI Request: FA 16/11/01500

File Number: ADF2016/71711

Dear GIPAboy

Acknowledgement of Freedom of Information Access request

This letter refers to an access request received under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) on 17 November 2016, seeking access to:

- '1. Request for number of syrian applicants that have applied for visitor visas to Australia from July 2015 to September 2016.*
- 2. How many applications (from Syrian applicants) for the visitor visa have been successful?*
- 3. Request for number of syrian applicants that have applied for the different types of refugee and humanitarian visas from July 2015 to September 2016. Please provide total number of applicants, and then total number of applicants by visa type.*
- 4. How many applications (from Syrian applicants) for the refugee and humanitarian visas have been successful? Please provide total number of successful applications, and then total number of successful applications by visa type.'*

Your request has been allocated FOI request number FA 16/11/01500. Please include your FOI request number in all correspondence with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Section.

Timeframe for request

The statutory time frame provided under the FOI Act for processing requests is a standard 30 calendar days. Due to the unprecedented number of requests currently being received by the Department, our processing times have increased.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this busy time and we will endeavour to finalise your request as soon as possible. Although we endeavour to have all requests finalised within the statutory timeframes, this is not practicable at this time. Requests that are outside the processing timeframes under the FOI Act will still continue to be processed by the Department.

FOI requests will generally be processed in the order that they are received. As the number of cases on-hand continues to increase, we are unable to give you an exact date for the finalisation of your request. In some cases where a request is specific and is seeking to access a single document the Department may process this type of request within the 30 day timeframe.

Request for an extension of time

For this reason the Department seeks your agreement (under s.15AA of the FOI Act) to extend the timeframe for the processing of your request by 30 days. You may confirm your agreement to the extension of time by writing to the Department at foi@border.gov.au

If you agree to the extension of time please advise the Department within 3 days from the date of this letter. If you are unable or unwilling to provide an extension of time you are not required to respond to this letter.

Contacting the FOI Section

If you wish to discuss your access request you may contact the FOI Section using the details provided below.

Contacting the Department

You can contact us with an enquiry in a number of ways including by email, through our website; by telephone, through our Service Centres or offices around the world, or in person. In Australia you can call 13 18 81 between 9 am and 4 pm Monday to Friday. Details on submitting a webform, or contacting our offices outside Australia are available on our website at www.border.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

FOI Officer
Freedom of Information Section
Information Management Branch | Corporate Services Division
Corporate Group
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
E: foi@border.gov.au