



18 July 2017

In reply please quote

FOI Request FA 17/05/01279
File Number ADF2017/55513

Merhej E

Sent via email: GIPAboy foi+request-3563-7427ce46@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Merhej E

Freedom of Information request – Release of documents

This letter refers to your request received on 24 May 2017 seeking access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act) to the following documents:

1. *Number of partner visa applications lodged in the Australian Visa processing centre in Jordan in 2016 and 2017 to date (24 May 2017) by nationality (Iraqi and Syrian applicants)?*
2. *Number of partner visa applications that were successful in 2016 and 2017, separately by year.*
3. *Number of decision makers in the visa processing centre in Jordan which decide partner visa applications.*
4. *What is the actual average waiting time for processing partner visa applications in 2016 and 2017 in the visa processing centre/embassy in Jordan?*

This letter is to provide you with the decision, which is set out in the attached Decision Record – Attachment A.

FOI Legislation

A copy of the FOI Act is available for your reference from:
www.legislation.gov.au/Browse/ByTitle/Acts/InForce/0/0/Principal

Review rights

Internal review

If you disagree with my decision, you have the right to apply for an internal review of my decision. If you wish to make a request for internal review this must be sent within 30 days of being notified of the decision. Where possible please attach reasons why you believe review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by an officer other than

the original decision-maker and the Department must make a review decision within 30 days. Applications for review should be sent to:

Freedom of Information
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
PO Box 25
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

Or by email to: foi.reviews@border.gov.au

Review by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply directly to the Australian Information Commissioner for a review of my decision. You must apply in writing within 60 days of this notice. For further information about review rights under the FOI Act please see FOI fact sheet 12 '*Freedom of information – Your review rights*', available online at www.oaic.gov.au .

How to make a complaint about the handling of your FOI request

You may complain to the Australian Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how the department has handled your request under the FOI Act. Information about how to submit a complaint is also available at www.oaic.gov.au .

Contacting the FOI section

If you wish to discuss this matter, I can be contacted using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely

Renata Buchanan
Authorised decision maker
Freedom of Information Section
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
Email foi@border.gov.au

Attachment(s)

- ✓ Attachment A – Decision Record
- ✓ Attachment B – Documents released



Attachment A

DECISION RECORD

Request Details

FOI Request FA 17/05/01279
File Number ADF2017/55513

Scope of request

On 24 May 2017 you requested:

1. *Number of partner visa applications lodged in the Australian Visa processing centre in Jordan in 2016 and 2017 to date (24 May 2017) by nationality (Iraqi and Syrian applicants)?*
2. *Number of partner visa applications that were successful in 2016 and 2017, separately by year.*
3. *Number of decision makers in the visa processing centre in Jordan which decide partner visa applications.*
4. *What is the actual average waiting time for processing partner visa applications in 2016 and 2017 in the visa processing centre/embassy in Jordan?*

Documents in scope

The Department has used its electronic systems to produce a document containing the information requested.

Authority to make decision

I am an officer authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of requests to access documents or to amend or annotate Departmental records.

Information considered

In reaching my decision, I have considered the following:

- The *Freedom of Information Act 1982*;
- Consultations with relevant business areas;
- Departmental files and/or documents (identified above); and
- The Australian Information Commissioner's Guidelines relating to access to documents held by government.

Decision

I have decided to release the document to you in full. Refer to Attachment B.

(signed electronically)

Renata Buchanan
Authorised decision maker
Freedom of Information Section
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
Email foi@border.gov.au

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