

7 June 2024

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OIA 29357

I refer to your email of 9 May 2024 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 1. How many staff are involved with Gloriavale?*
- 2. What is the annual cost of this?*
- 3. What active investigations do you currently have into Gloriavale?*
- 4. When do you hope to conclude these/these by?*

We have numbered your request for administrative ease.

1. How many staff are involved with Gloriavale?

One Wellington-based staff member has been leading the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (the Ministry) engagement with other government departments regarding the Gloriavale community in India. Other staff members, including two based in New Zealand's High Commission in New Delhi, as well as senior managers, have also supported this process in recent months.

2. What is the annual cost of this?

The Ministry does not record data in a way that allows us to identify the cost of this particular work stream. Accordingly, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information does not exist.

3. What active investigations do you currently have into Gloriavale? and,

4. When do you hope to conclude these/these by?

The Ministry does not have a formal investigatory role in relation to the consular services and support it provides to New Zealanders abroad. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade