



9 September 2024

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dia.govt.nz

Bob McCoskrie

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Tēnā koe Bob

OIA request 24/25 0151 Request for data on gender change on New Zealand Passports.

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 13 August 2024.

You requested –

1. *Could you please provide the number of people who have changed their gender on their NZ passport since it became legal in 2012.*

Please break it into years and also into ages

- 18+
 - 16-17
 - 0-15
2. *Of the 16-17 year olds, how many had consent from a parent/guardian*
 3. *Please also provide the number of male to female, female to male, male to other, female to other.*

In response to your request, I can provide you with the following information.

Questions One and Three

Please refer to Appendix A attached alongside this letter.

Question Two

I can advise that under section 4(3)(a) of the Passports Act 1992 an applicant under the age of 16 years requires written consent of a parent or guardian for the issue of a passport. Applicants aged 16 years and older are considered adults when applying for a New Zealand passport and do not require consent from a parent or guardian. As this group do not require consent from a parent or guardian to apply for a passport, they do not require consent to change the details in that passport.

Therefore, I must refuse this part of your request under Section 18(g)(i) of the Act; that the information requested is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department (for itself and for a departmental agency hosted by it or an interdepartmental executive board serviced by it) or interdepartmental venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on its website. All requestor data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-Requests-2.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Julia Taylor
Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence
Service Delivery and Operations