



Freedom of Information Request FA 18/08/00554

Scope of Request:

I am seeking statistics over the last 3 years on the number of times the Minister has personally exercised his s.195A power in order to meet Australian's international non-refoulement obligations in relation to s.501 refusal or cancellation matters and what alternative management options were put in place where the Minister did exercise his discretion.

Response:

During the period 1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018, 10 visas were granted by the Minister, using his section 195A Ministerial intervention powers under the Migration Act 1958 (the Act), to individuals who had been cancelled or refused a visa under section 501 of the Act and for whom international non-refoulement obligations were owed. These individuals were granted either a Bridging E visa or a Removal Pending Bridging visa.¹

¹ As departmental systems do not allow for recording and reporting to this level of detail, these statistics have been compiled from information maintained by the relevant business area. As a result, the Department cannot guarantee the completeness of this data for the 3 year period. This information has been provided for the specific purpose of this request. The Department of Home Affairs must be consulted regarding any requests to use this data for purposes not originally intended or discussed.