Freedom of Information Request
FA 20/09/00219

1. Number of overseas non-citizen travel exemption requests from 1 March 2020 to date

   - From 20 March when international travel restrictions were introduced to 13 September (inclusive), 119,627 requests were received for inwards exemption from Australia’s travel restrictions. A request may include more than one person.

2. Number of overseas non-citizen travel exemption requests per category of travel exemption request from 1 March to date categorised as follows:

   2.1 A non-citizen whose entry would otherwise be in the national interest, supported by the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority

      - see table below

   2.2 Travelling for compassionate and compelling reasons

      - see table below

   2.3 A non-citizen travelling for business or investment purposes; and

      - this is not a category recorded for inwards travel exemption requests

   2.4 A non-citizen with critical skills or working in a critical sector in Australia.

      - see table below

3. Number of grants of overseas non-citizen travel exemptions from 1 March to date

   - From 20 March when international travel restrictions were introduced to 13 September (inclusive), 18,427 requests for inwards exemption from Australia’s travel restrictions were approved by the ABF Commissioner or a delegate.

4. Number of grants of overseas non-citizen travel exemptions from 1 March to date per categories 2.1 to 2.4 given above.

   - see table below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Received*</th>
<th>Approved**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National interest (including diplomatic)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compassionate / compelling</td>
<td>53212</td>
<td>3894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical skills (including business leaders)</td>
<td>17825</td>
<td>6379</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* includes persons found to meet an exempt category, requests that were withdrawn, requests that were refused and requests that did not contain sufficient information for referral to the Commissioner of a decision maker

** refers to decisions made by the ABF Commissioner or a delegate to approve an exemption to the travel restrictions