



## OUR SERVICES

Our **Live in New Zealand** team is one New Zealand's leading immigration practices. Our team is experienced in every aspect of immigration law and can advise in relation to all immigration matters that may arise.

As a result of our many years of experience in dealing with migrants to New Zealand, we realise that there is a lot more to providing an immigration service than gaining the necessary visas or residence for our clients. Our **Live in New Zealand** team will guide and assist you through the whole process from start to finish, providing a service tailored to your particular needs.

Our aim is to make your transition to New Zealand as smooth and stress free as possible. We believe that some or all of the services noted below will be of benefit to most of our clients:

- Free assessment and personal consultation to discuss the details of your application. We contact you, at our own expense, for the consultation!
- Fully transparent fee structure, enabling you to know, before you engage us, exactly what our fees will be and at what stage they need to be paid. A significant part of our fee is dependent upon the success of your application.
- Direct referrals to trusted advisers with whom we have a sound working relationship, such as recruitment consultants, property agents, banks, financial advisers and accountants.
- Monthly **Live in New Zealand** newsletter, to keep you abreast of the key topics of likely interest to potential migrants.
- Peace of mind that you are being assisted by a team of leading professionals, dedicated to ensuring that your dreams of a new life in New Zealand become a reality.

## IMMIGRATION TODAY

New Zealand immigration law and policy is substantive, complex and changes frequently. In many instances, the decision to approve or decline an application will be made by an individual immigration officer assessing the application on the facts and materials that are actually presented at that time.

Significant changes were made to the Skilled Migrant Category (**SMC**) on 4 February 2008 and Work Visa policy on 28 July 2008. As a consequence of those changes, a significant amount of discretion has been removed from the immigration officer processing your application. It is now very important that the job offer and employment agreement negotiated between you and your New Zealand employer are compliant with the new regulations. The changes have made it much harder for an individual to move through the immigration process without a detailed understanding of Immigration New Zealand (**INZ**) policy.

It is critical to ensure that your application is made to the appropriate Government representative with all necessary information and documentation appropriately prepared and vetted. Our **Live in New Zealand** team will ensure that your application is complete, properly presented and has the maximum chance of being successful.

## Where do I get good immigration advice from?

### IMMIGRATION SERVICES - WHY CHOOSE OUR LIVE IN NEW ZEALAND TEAM?

In order to obtain the right to indefinitely reside in New Zealand you have two choices.

**First**, you can assess, complete, submit, and process your own application(s) directly with INZ. The difficulty in taking responsibility for your own application is that you will not receive direct (or reliable) assistance with your application from INZ. INZ will provide information to you; they will not provide personalised, tailored advice. There is a huge difference between the two.

Second, you instruct our **Live in New Zealand** team to take full responsibility to ensure you qualify and will therefore obtain residence.

There are two main reasons why our team receives instructions to assist applicants:

1. You may simply not have enough time or the ability to research and understand the regulations in sufficient detail to ensure that you will obtain residence
2. You may wish to instruct an immigration lawyer (not an immigration consultant) to ensure you qualify and you obtain the required visas in a timely and stress-free manner

Should you decide to instruct our **Live in New Zealand** team to assist you with your application, you will have access to a firm of professional lawyers who have helped migrants since 1868. We know every issue you will encounter in this process.

You are shifting from one side of the planet to the other and, as such, it is a difficult and sometimes stressful logistical undertaking. Our intention is to relieve as much stress from the process as is possible.

**When undertaking one of the biggest decisions of your life, it is important to know that you are receiving the best advice and to know that you are paying a fair price.**

### **IMMIGRATION CONSULTANTS: A WARNING!**

Lane Neave and our **Live in New Zealand** team are not immigration consultants.

We are one of Christchurch's oldest, largest and most respected law firms, and as such, our services and the fees we charge are regulated by the New Zealand Law Society. Our firm is also a voluntary member of the New Zealand Association for Migration and Investment that applies a strict code of ethics.

Immigration consultants operating in New Zealand and overseas are unregulated by law, meaning the accuracy and quality of service varies significantly. There are no examination or qualification requirements to become an immigration consultant. In addition to competence issues, the service fees charged by immigration consultants are often exorbitant as there is no legal body to regulate their fees.

In response to many complaints, the New Zealand Government has now legislated to regulate the quality of service and fees charged by immigration consultants. However, compulsory regulation does not take effect until May 2009 for consultants practicing in New Zealand and May 2010 for consultants based overseas. Until then, using a consultant can be a gamble!

### **SERVICE FEE AND ASSOCIATED COSTS**

Our Live in New Zealand team provides an industry-leading service at a highly competitive and reasonable rate.

- Our fees are fixed and disclosed up front during the initial consultation, before you engage us, so there is complete transparency and no surprises.
- Our fees are not time-based, but flat fees paid in instalments corresponding to the progress of your application. A significant part of our fee is contingent upon success.
- Our fees are extremely competitive and are generally far less than fees charged by unregulated immigration consultants.

### **LANE NEAVE PROVIDE A FREE IMMIGRATION ASSESSMENT AND 30 MINUTE CONSULTATION**

We suggest that you contact Lane Neave's **Live in New Zealand** team first for a free initial assessment and consultation. In doing so, you will have the opportunity to talk through your particular circumstances, determine what needs to be done to achieve success, as well as being advised, upfront, on the fees charged for your particular case. This free service will enable you to determine the value that our Live in New Zealand team can bring to you, making your move to New Zealand as smooth as possible.

### **OTHER SERVICES**

In addition to immigration advice, Lane Neave is a full service law firm, advising on a range of legal issues that may affect migrants to New Zealand. Typically, these may include residential and commercial property purchase, wills and trusts, employment relations, commercial/business law and litigation/dispute resolution.

As a migrant, there are both tax and trust law advantages open to you before New Zealand becomes your home. As a firm, we are aware of these and can provide timely advice to take advantage of these during the immigration process.

If you are seeking a professional immigration service, provided by one of New Zealand's premier law firms, that will guide you through the process and assist you every step of the way, contact our **Live in New Zealand**. We specialise in providing peace of mind to our clients!