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Tel: 020 7035 4848 www.gov.uk/homeoffice

By Email:

request-448526-4403c41a@whatdotheyknow.com

FOI Reference: 46358

Date: 20 December 2017

Dear Ms Muzira

Thank you for your e-mail of 24 November 2017, in which you ask for information about country information and returns arrangements regarding asylum seekers from Zimbabwe. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In response to your specific questions:

1. Have Home Office Caseworkers currently been instructed to pause in their consideration and decision-making of Zimbabwean protection claims pending publication of a relevant Country Information Policy Note in relation to those opposed to the Zimbabwean Government?

No.

2. Where internal Home office consideration of protection claims continues, which **Country Information Notes are Home Office Caseworkers taking into account** when considering claims from Zimbabwean nationals fearing return to Zimbabwe on account of opposition to the Zimbabwean Government?

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/zimbabwe-country-policy-andinformation-notes

3. When will a relevant updated Country Information Note be published by the Home Office in relation to consideration of protection claims from those opposed to the Zimbabwean Government?

We are planning to update this CPIN early in the new year.

4. Has agreement been reached between the UK Government and the Zimbabwean Government in relation to whether the Zimbabwean authorities will agree to



issue Emergency Travel Documents for non-consenting undocumented Zimbabwean returnees who are without valid national passports?

No. The UK government has not yet sought to discuss nor review the emergency travel document process we currently have in place with the government of Zimbabwe.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference **46358**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely

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