

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
BUDGET ESTIMATES  
MAY 2023**

**Home Affairs Portfolio  
Department of Home Affairs**

**Program 2.3: Refugee, Humanitarian, Settlement and Migrant Services**

**BE23-323 - Onshore protection visa applications - average wait time for initial decision**

Senator James Paterson asked:

For each month from May 2022 to June 2023:

What was the average wait time for a person making an onshore protection visa application to receive an initial decision by the Department?

*Answer:*

The below table contains the average processing time for an applicant who has lodged a Permanent Protection Visa (PPV) application to receive an initial (grant or refusal) decision made by the Department for each month from May 2022 to May 2023.

| <b>Decisions made in the month of:</b> | <b>Average processing time in days:</b> |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| May 2022                               | 948                                     |
| June 2022                              | 906                                     |
| July 2022                              | 1,016                                   |
| August 2022                            | 1,112                                   |
| September 2022                         | 983                                     |
| October 2022                           | 877                                     |
| November 2022                          | 764                                     |
| December 2022                          | 756                                     |
| January 2023                           | 726                                     |
| February 2023                          | 828                                     |
| March 2023                             | 819                                     |
| April 2023                             | 913                                     |
| May 2023                               | 641                                     |

*Note: Data for June 2023 is not yet available.*