

20 August 2018

redacted s9(2)(a)
MartinJenkins
redacted@martinjenkins.co.nz

Dear redacted s9(2)(a)

## State Services Commission Inquiry into the use of External Security Consultants

This letter serves as the New Zealand Qualifications Authority's (NZQA's) formal response to a request of 23 July 2018 received from Doug Martin, Inquiry Head, seeking a report on the outcome of any internal review of NZQA's historic use of external security consultants for the purposes included in the correspondence, and specifically the engagement and use of Thompson and Clarke Investigations Ltd and various other named associated companies for such work. I note the specific definition of the scope of the request and that it excludes investigations relating to information technology security, specific cases of fraud and security services relating to security guards, alarm monitoring and general media (including social media) monitoring.

I can confirm that after a historic review of our procurement and contract system, our financial management information system and our email system, NZQA has, to the best of our organisational knowledge, not engaged the services of external security consultants for the purposes referred to in the correspondence. Specifically, NZQA has not engaged the services of Thompson and Clarke Investigations Ltd, or any of the other associated companies listed in Doug Martin's correspondence. My enquiry into this matter also included whether NZQA had been using platforms such as redacted s 9(2)(b)(ii) to exchange information with any of the associated companies and I can confirm that these platforms were not used for the purposes of exchanging any information with the companies in question.

As requested I will also advise the relevant Assistant Commissioner at the SSC by forwarding this letter for their information.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely

Russell Wood

Acting Chief Executive