



IN CONFIDENCE

Sarah Baddeley
MartinJenkins
Level 1, City Chambers, Cnr Johnston and Featherston Streets
Wellington, 6011

Dear Ms Baddeley

External Security Consultants Inquiry - Ministry of Social Development

In response to your letter dated 23 July 2018, I have taken appropriate steps to assure myself that any use of external security consultants by the Ministry is appropriate, well managed and with appropriate controls and oversight in place.

The Ministry does not generally use external security consultants and I have no cause for concern in the instances where we have done so.

A forensic email search and a search of the Ministry's financial records were undertaken and I am confident that the Ministry has not contracted with Thompson and Clark Investigations Limited, or its associated companies.

I was made aware that the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) used Cyclops Monitoring Limited to monitor the red zone through the use of camera surveillance after the Canterbury earthquakes from 2013 to 2015. This was found through the email and financial search as CERA used the Ministry's email and financial systems.

CERA have also used another company, Avon Investigations, to undertake some audits of properties within the 'red zone' in Canterbury, issue trespass notices and serve Court orders from late 2012 to 2013.

Email correspondence between Ministry staff and Thompson and Clark Investigations Limited was found, but it was neither inappropriate nor concerning.

I am confident that the use of other external security consultants apart from Thompson and Clark Investigations Limited and its associated companies was appropriate, necessary in the circumstances and did not involve the services that were defined in your letter. There were instances of surveillance in three cases that involved specific cases of fraud or suspected fraud.

If you require further information, please contact me.

Kind regards



Brendan Boyle
Chief Executive