

7 February 2019

Dear

Official Information Request Our Ref: 2018-0204

I refer to your official information request received on 19 December 2018 where you asked:

"When was Thompson and Clark (or its predecessor, if any) first engaged by a NZ Government Ministry, Department or other Government body?"

In March 2018, the State Services Commissioner launched an Inquiry under the State Sector Act into the Use of External Security Consultants. The Inquiry has identified and reported on engagement between government agencies and external security consultants – including but not limited to Thompson & Clark Investigations Limited (TCIL). It focused on the last 10 years, but also looked at events going further back.

Based on the information gathered by the Inquiry, TCIL were established in 2003 and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry first engaged with them in 2004.

Should you require more information than what is contained in the Inquiry Report, you will need to make a request to each of the agencies individually.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@ssc.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the State Services Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Williams

Deputy Commissioner State Services Commission

2 The Terrace
PO Box 329 Wellington 6140
New Zealand
Phone +64-4-495 6600
Fax +64-4-495 6686
www.ssc.govt.nz