



[IN CONFIDENCE]

## Chief Technology Officer

**Date:** 12 September 2018  
**For:** Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of State Services  
**Report No:** SSC2018/913

## Chief Technology Officer

- Purpose**
- 1 You asked the State Services Commission to:
    - 1.1 Provide you with advice as to whether the recruitment of the Chief Technology Officer would be open to legal challenge on process grounds. This should include consideration of the meeting between the Hon Clare Curran and the candidate.
    - 1.2 Undertake a peer review of the conflict of interest disclosure and management plan work led by the Department of Internal Affairs.
  - 2 We are now in a position to provide an update.

### Recruitment process

- Advice**
- 3 It is unlikely that a legal challenge of the recruitment of the Chief Technology Officer on the grounds of process would be successful. At our request, Crown Law have undertaken a review of the process and based their view on a number of interviews and a review of relevant documents. In summary their conclusion is:
    - 3.1 It is unlikely that a challenge on the grounds of process will be successful
    - 3.2 The evidence suggests a suitably robust recruitment process.
    - 3.3 Viewed objectively, the meeting between the Hon Clare Curran and the Candidate before the recruitment process commenced did not prejudice the process.

### Conflict of Interest

- 4 The Department of Internal Affairs have not yet completed the full conflict of interest process. We understand that they have advised you that this process will take another week to complete. We are unable to provide a complete peer review at this time.

### Recommendations:

We recommend that you:

- a **note** the contents of this report  
Noted

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- b **agree** that this report be considered for proactive release once a limited waiver of legal professional privilege is obtained from the Attorney-General.

Agree / Disagree.



Hon Chris Hipkins

**Minister of State Services**

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PROACTIVELY RELEASED BY THE MINISTER OF STATE SERVICES