



1 October 2014

Mr Ross Butler
Chair
Southern Response Earthquake Services Limited
PO Box 9052
CHRISTCHURCH 8149

Dear Mr Butler

Application of the Standards of Integrity and Conduct to Southern Response Earthquake Services Limited

I am writing to seek your views on the application of the Standards of Integrity and Conduct for the State Services (the Code) to Southern Response Earthquake Services Limited.

The 2013 amendments to the State Sector Act 1988 (the Act), (s57)(1)(ba), enables me now to set standards of integrity and conduct, by issuing and applying the Code, to the companies named in Schedule 4A of the Public Finance Act 1989. The Code has been applied to Public Service departments, statutory Crown entities, and Crown entity companies since late 2007. The legislative amendments recognise that from a governance and financial perspective, the companies listed in Schedule 4A have similar responsibilities to, and should be subject to, the same integrity expectations as Crown entity companies.

The Code is principles based and requires those to whom it applies to be fair, impartial, responsible and trustworthy. A copy of the Code is enclosed, and further information about understanding the Code can be found at <http://www.ssc.govt.nz/code-guidance-stateservants>.

Once the Code is applied under section 57A(1) of the Act, your entity and its employees and any contractors and secondees, working in your business assisting with delivery of your functions, duties and powers, will all be responsible for complying with the standards set out in the Code.

The Code's application is very clear about the behaviour that is expected of everyone working for your entity and reinforces the 'spirit of service' that unites those working for the State services. Your entity should maintain a set of integrity policies and procedures. Advice on these is online at <http://www.ssc.govt.nz/code-resources-organisations>.

Section 57A (2) of the Act allows for derogation from any particular standard, provided you have:

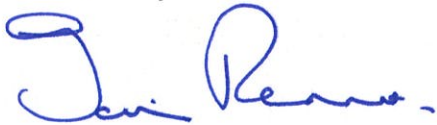
- (a) obtained the prior written approval of the responsible Minister to the derogation; and
- (b) sent a copy of the approval to the Commissioner.

I ask you to confirm there are no issues relating to Southern Response Earthquake Services Limited requiring special consideration before applying the Code. I have authority to issue a code with any variations that I consider appropriate within a legal, commercial, or operational context relating to an entity or persons or groups of persons in an entity, which could be a way to meet specific circumstances or concerns that you bring to my attention.

I suggest that I should apply the Code from 1 January 2015; this will allow time for you to put associated policies and practices in place.

I would appreciate your views on the proposed application of the Code by Friday 10 October 2014. I would be happy to discuss any concerns with you, or you may wish to contact Karen Ross on (04) 495 6741 or karen.ross@ssc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Iain Rennie
State Services Commissioner

Copy to: Mr Peter Rose, Chief Executive
Southern Response Earthquake Services Limited

Encl. Standards of Integrity and Conduct

PROACTIVELY RELEASED BY
SOUTHERN RESPONSE EARTHQUAKE SERVICES LTD