

### **Direction regarding all-of-government shared authentication services**

1 All Public Service departments, the New Zealand Police, the New Zealand Defence Force, the Parliamentary Counsel Office, and the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service are directed as follows:

(1) before developing a proposal to invest in or build online credential management or identity verification capability as an alternative to using all-of-government shared authentication services (known upon the giving of this direction as the Government Logon Service and the Identity Verification Service), whether the proposal is to be funded from retained depreciation funding or from new funding, to consult with the State Services Commission; and

(2) if, after such consultation:

(i) the government department still intends to invest in or build alternative online credential management or identity verification capability; and

(ii) the State Services Commission has not agreed, either in the individual case or by reference to a generic class consent, to the government department investing in or building alternative online credential management or identity verification capability,

the government department must obtain the approval of its Minister and the Minister of State Services before taking action to implement the proposal.

2 For the avoidance of doubt, the direction is not intended to detract from the requirements of the Cabinet Office Circular CO (99) 7, *Financial Delegations and Delegations Limits for Responsible Ministers and Departmental Chief Executives*, or any successor circular on the same subject-matter.

3 For the purposes of this direction:

(1) “online credential management” means the use of logons, such as (but not limited to) passwords or two-factor authentication, for ongoing confirmation of identity when accessing a secure online service, whether the service is made available to audiences external to the government department or is only accessible to audiences within or serving the government department itself;

(2) “identity verification” means the establishment and re-confirmation of the identity and identity attributes of a person; and

(3) “generic class consent” means a decision, made by the State Services Commission, to grant consent to a particular class of online service, application or use-case for the purposes of clause 1(2)(ii) of this direction without the need to consider the individual circumstances of individual proposals falling within that class.”