



Metiria Turei and Russel Norman  
Green Party Co-Leaders



14 August 2014

The Inspector-General  
c/- The Registrar of the High Court at Wellington  
DX SX 11199  
Wellington

Dear Inspector-General,

I wish to lay a complaint with your office regarding allegations that New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) documents were declassified in order to be used for political purposes.

In Nicky Hager's book *Dirty Politics*, published on 13 August 2014, it is alleged that that the NZSIS released information that would not have usually been released, after receiving an Official Information Act request from Cameron Slater.

The book alleges that *"Someone had overruled the usual practice and then fast-tracked the release. The released documents were stamped as being declassified on 26 July 2011, the same day that Slater sent off his request."*

The book also alleges that *"...someone had told Slater that his request would be processed, signed off and sent to him in just a few days. It also seems that Slater had some advance knowledge of what the information said."*

Correspondence between Mr Slater and an associate includes statements that imply this advance knowledge of both the content of the information and the process being used for it be to released, such as *"...it has been expedited, in the public interest. It is devastating for Goff I am told."*

The book states that documents such as NZSIS briefing notes are not usually released to the public. It also states that the information was received by Mr Slater seven working days after the request was lodged.

If these allegations are true, I find it deeply concerning that classified documents could be deliberately declassified for the express purpose of releasing to a prearranged source as part of an orchestrated political attack.

It is also of great concern that Mr Slater appeared to have knowledge of the information and process, both of which should have only been available to those within the NZSIS and the office of the Minister in Charge of the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service.

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*Authorised by Russel Norman and Metiria Turei, Parliament Buildings, Wellington*



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As the officer responsible for ensuring that the NZSIS acts lawfully and with propriety, as well as for reviewing the NZSIS's compliance procedures and systems, I request that your office investigate the allegations laid out in this book.

I urge you to undertake an inquiry into this matter. Oversight of our intelligence agencies is vital to ensure public confidence in the work that these agencies do, and I feel that the allegations in this book threaten to undermine this confidence.

Queries may be directed to my staff, either Maggie Tait (04) 817-6710 or Holly Donald (04) 817-6606.

Yours faithfully,

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Green Party Co-leader

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