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28 July 2023

Muhammad

fyi-request-23262-fdd855ab@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Muhammad,

## Official information request

On 25 May 2023, you requested information about the National Security Check (NSC) process from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). On 30 June 2023, MBIE transferred the following part of your request to the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS):

When will NZSIS clear the backlog of NSC checks?

## Response

The processing time for NSCs varies across the year, for a number of reasons. The NZSIS conducts NSCs in response to Immigration New Zealand's priorities, which are dynamic and change according to circumstances.

However, for the purpose of national security, we do not disclose information about individuals going through the process, or information about the process itself. As such, I must refuse your request under section 6(a) of the OIA, as making the information available would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

## Review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact <a href="mailto:oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz">oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz</a>.

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 <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi,

**Andrew Hampton** 

Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Pā Whakamarumaru Director-General of Security