

06 JUL 2015

Geoff Scrimgeour
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Dear Mr Scrimgeour

Thank you for submitting questions to the Ministry of Education on 31 May 2015. You asked:

- *Is the Ministry considering the development of an Identity and Access Management (IAM) initiative?*

On 5 June 2015, you also asked the Associate Minister of Education Hon Nikki Kaye the following questions, which were transferred to the Ministry of Education on 9 June 2015:

- *Has N4L (Network for Learning) requested a variation in their role in order to develop a national IAM initiative?*
- *If N4L did request such a variation, what would be the process of discussion and/or approval?*

Your questions have been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry of Education manages an identity and access management system on behalf of the wider education sector through a system called ESAA (Education Sector Authentication and Authorisation). Our system allows access to multiple websites and applications with a single user ID. Current users of ESAA include the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, the Tertiary Education Commission and teacher resource websites such as Te Kete Ipurangi.

With regards to your first question, I can confirm that the Ministry is considering developing an IAM initiative to work alongside ESAA. This initiative will allow users to access multiple services with a single password to make managing school networks easier.

With regards to your second question, N4L has not requested a variation in its role in order to develop a new national IAM system. N4L's core purpose is still to offer schools access to fast internet, uncapped data, web filtering and network security services. More information on N4L's current priorities is available in its *Statement of Intent 2014-17*. You can read this online at:
<http://www.n4l.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/N4L-Statement-of-Intent-2014-2017.pdf>.

With regards to your third question, N4L is required to work with the Ministry to support the implementation of Government education policy. N4L's two shareholding

Ministers, the Minister of Education Hon Hekia Parata, and the Minister of Finance Hon Bill English have made it clear that they expect to be consulted on any major spending initiatives or deviation from N4L's core work. As Associate Minister for Education Nikki Kaye also stated in her response to your Official Information Act request last August, we would expect N4L to consult with its stakeholders before making any changes.

I hope this answer has been useful to you. Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this response. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely,



Zoe Griffiths
Deputy Secretary
People, Capability and Research