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7 February 2023



Official Information Act #22.102 - Response

- 1. We refer to your request for information, received on 18 January 2023, that relates to Shelly Cullen (Ms Cullen).
- 2. We have treated this as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**).

Our response

- 3. In November 2020, the Commission opened an investigation into the promotion of a scheme in New Zealand known as Lion's Share (**the Scheme**) by Ms Cullen. Specifically, the investigation relates to whether the Scheme is a pyramid selling scheme pursuant to section 24 of the Fair Trading Act 1986, and Ms Cullen's involvement in the Scheme.
- 4. As part of our investigation, on 21 December 2020 we wrote to Ms Cullen asking her to:
 - 4.1 cease her association with the Scheme and any other pyramid scheme;
 - 4.2 cease promoting and recruiting additional participants into the Scheme or any other pyramid scheme; and
 - 4.3 remove any content from social media (including Facebook and YouTube) that promotes such schemes.
- 5. A copy of the letter is available on our website here.
- 6. The investigation into the Scheme is ongoing and we are not in a position to make any further comments about the matter at this stage.

- 7. The Commission will be publishing this response to your request on its website.
- 8. Please do not hesitate to contact us at oia@comcom.govt.nz if you have any questions about this response.

Yours sincerely

Released Under Official Information Act 1982