

OBPR

A RIS can help identify the best policy response available to Government  
Video transcript

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**Mark Booth:** The discipline of doing the RIS really provides that framework to make sure that you've looked at all of those different options, as well as ensuring that you've considered all the different areas of Government and not just government, all other areas within the private sector and the not-for-profit sector that you should be bringing into your decision making process.

For us, typically when we do work in the food regulatory area, we would be looking at issues that cover industry, environment, foreign affairs, agriculture, health, a whole host of different areas.

The RIS process really gives us that framework and that ability to really engage with those other agencies and pull all the advice together that we need to make sure that the decisions that we are making, and the advice that we are providing, are rooted in evidence.

**John Skerritt:** Regulation Impact Statements, or RISs, do look at a whole-of-government, whole of economy impacts, and sometimes there will be differing impacts on one portfolio versus another.

For example, quite often where in health. You need to limit the activities of particular entities because of a safety issue. You may actually have an economic impact or you may have a trade impact for example.

Working with Central Agency and working with the Regulation Impact Statement process means that you can unpick those different impacts. It may well be that the health impact, especially if it's a safety risk, is the most supreme of all. At least you're going in with your eyes wide open that you can understand the impacts on particular business.

**Neil Savery:** The RIS is a means by which you can break down all of the costs and benefits.

Examine the potential implications for different stakeholders within society, and that enables you to narrow it down to an outcome that you think is going to deliver the best solution for whatever the problem happens to be.

That doesn't necessarily mean that it's the best outcome for the Office of the ABCB or the Department or any of the individual governments that comprise the Australian Building Codes Board.

It's the collective benefit, particularly in our case, where we’re trying to serve the national interest.