





Key changes to the Australian Government Policy Impact Analysis framework



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| **Previous Setting** | **Impact Analysis Aspects** | **New Setting Effective March 2023** |
| Australian Government Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis. | **Title** | Australian Government Guide to Policy Impact Analysis. |
| Focused on decisions of Government with an expectation of compliance.Any rule endorsed by government where there is an expectation of compliance. | **Scope** | **Focus remains unchanged** but now betterarticulated to reflect current practice.*Any policy proposal or action of government, with an expectation of compliance, that would result in a more than minor change in behaviour or impact for people, businesses, or community organisations.* |
| 7 Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) questions. | **Principles and****Elements** | 7 Impact Analysis questions remain, but with **minor movement of some key principles** between the questions (see below). |
| Implementation planning grouped with evaluation in Question 7. | **Implementation planning** | Implementation planning **requirements unchanged** but now grouped with discussion on how the best option was selected in Question 6. |
| Evaluation grouped with implementation planning in Question 7. | **Evaluation** | **Evaluation now a standalone item**at Question 7 to recognise its importance in the policy development lifecycle. |
| Impact Analyses must be certified by agency heads or Deputy Secretaries, with delegation arrangements in place in limited circumstances. | **Submission of Impact Analyses to OIA** | Impact Analyses can **only** be certified by agencyheads or Deputy Secretaries. |
| All submissions must be accompanied by an appropriate degree of regulatory impact analysis. Minor RISs mandatory for proposals considered by OIA to have low regulatory impact. | **Requirements for Cabinet Submissions** | Completion of Minor Impact Analysis **now at the discretion of sponsoring Ministers**. |
| Agencies permitted to self-certify documents as ‘independent reviews’ that meet the RIS requirements.OIA only tests relevance of documents to the decision and does not comment on analytical quality. | **Independent****Reviews** | Agencies able to self-certify documents as ‘Impact Analysis equivalents’ **only with the prior agreement of OIA**.Testing of relevance to decision unchanged but OIA may now comment on, but not formerly assess,the quality of the analysis. |