



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

Deputy Secretary
Civil Justice and
Legal Services Group

Mr Jason McNamara
Executive Director
Office of Best Practice Regulation
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
1 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

Email: helpdesk@obpr.gov.au

Dear Mr McNamara

Details-stage Regulation Impact Statement – Cost recovery and other reforms for the Marriage Celebrants Program

I am writing in relation to the attached draft details-stage Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) prepared by the Attorney-General's Department for the introduction of cost recovery for the Commonwealth Marriage Celebrants Program. The regulatory burden to business, community organisations and/or individuals has been quantified and offsets have been identified and quantified using the Business Cost Calculator. These have been agreed with your office.

I am satisfied that the final details-stage RIS addresses the concerns raised in your letter of 23 January 2014. In accordance with your feedback, the RIS has been updated to:

- Attach the 2011 RIS (Attachment A) in order to:
 - provide adequate evidence of the magnitude of the problem
 - clearly identify the objectives of government action
 - identify a range of alternative options, and
 - assess the impacts of each option on all groups in the community likely to be affected taking into account all costs and benefits.

Key information on these elements has been reiterated in the detailed-stage RIS where appropriate.

- Assess the impacts on business and community organisations, including costs and benefits of each proposed measure (previously included in Attachment B but now also reflected in the RIS).
- Further detail relating to the regulation offset is included in Attachment B.

Accordingly, I am satisfied that the final details-stage RIS now meets the Government's best practice regulation requirements.

I note that the Attorney-General's Department has prepared a single-stage RIS under the July 2013 RIS requirements, and as no decision has been previously announced, an options-stage RIS was not required. The single-stage RIS under the earlier RIS requirements was published on the OBPR website in June 2011.

I submit the RIS to the Office of Best Practice Regulation for formal assessment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Manning". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Greg Manning
Acting Deputy Secretary

29 January 2014