



## Australian Government

### Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Office of Best Practice Regulation

Reference: 25278

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Mr Mark Cormack  
Deputy Secretary  
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Dear Mr Cormack

#### **Regulation Impact Statement – Second-Pass Final Assessment Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme**

Thank you for submitting a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) to the Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) for second-pass assessment on 3 September 2019, in response to the Government's Election Commitment to expand eligibility for the Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme.

The OBPR would like to acknowledge the Department of Veterans' Affairs' efforts to develop the RIS and its willingness to work constructively with the OBPR. The OBPR's final assessment is that the Department of Veterans' Affairs is compliant with the Government's requirements, but was not consistent with best practice. This assessment takes into account the scope and magnitude of the problem and impacts, and the RIS requirements for Election Commitments in the *Australian Government Guide to Regulation*. The RIS may now be provided to the decision maker to inform a final decision.

The OBPR considers that further depth of analysis would have been required for the RIS to have been assessed as consistent with best practice. In particular, the RIS would have required further analysis to:

- Examine the policy problem more comprehensively by providing more evidence of the scope and magnitude of the problem to be addressed by Government action, including evidence gained through stakeholder consultation;
- Analyse to a greater extent the impacts of expanding eligibility for the Scheme by considering the costs and benefits for businesses and individuals, including Australian Defence Force members and veterans.
- Outline in more detail the range of stakeholders' views on expanded eligibility, including the views of businesses and individuals affected by the changes.

The OBPR is available to work with the Department of Veterans' Affairs to continue to build its regulatory impact analysis capability.

We would appreciate you advising us when a final decision on this proposal has been announced and forwarding us a copy of the RIS in a form meeting the Government's accessibility requirements. The OBPR's reference number for this matter is **25278**. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Lange', written in black ink.

Jason Lange  
Executive Director  
3 September 2019