Reference: OBPR22-02029  
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Mr Matt Flavel

Deputy Secretary

Social Security  
Department of Social Services  
  
Dear Mr Flavel  
  
**Regulation Impact Statement – Second Pass Final Assessment – Boosting Parental Leave to Enhance Economic Security, Support and Flexibility for Australia’s Families**

Thank you for your letter received on 20 October 2022 submitting a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) for formal Second Pass Final Assessment. I note the RIS has been formally certified at the Deputy Secretary level consistent with the *Australian Government Guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis* (the Guide).

I appreciate the Department of Social Services’ constructive engagement on the RIS. The Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) has assessed the quality of the RIS as adequate against the Guide and therefore sufficient to inform a decision.

To be assessed as good practice as per the Guide, the analysis needed to be informed by genuine consultation on the specific policy parameters considered in this RIS, to better test the assumptions underpinning the costs and benefits of each option. The OBPR considers that the justification for the preferred option would have been stronger had more targeted consultation been conducted.

The RIS may now be provided to the decision-maker to inform their decision.

**Next steps**

After a final decision on the policy proposal has been announced, I ask that your Department work with the OBPR to finalise the material for public release. This includes providing a copy of the RIS in Word and PDF formats for web accessibility purposes.

The OBPR will publish the RIS, along with your certification and this assessment, on the OBPR’s website at https://obpr.pmc.gov.au. The RIS must also be included in any Explanatory Memorandum or Statement accompanying legislative amendments giving effect to the proposals in the RIS.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jason Lange  
Executive Director  
21 October 2022