

10 January 2018

Mr Jonathan Fenwick
Victoria Division President
ACC Australia
PO Box 422, Collins Street West
Melbourne VIC 8007

Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Fenwick

Practising Certificate Fees Review: Response to Submission

Thank you for your email of 27 November 2017 enclosing the Association of Corporate Counsel Australia's (ACC Australia) submission to the formal public consultation stage of the Practising Certificate Fees Review (the review) and the Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) process.

On behalf of the Victorian Legal Services Board (the Board), I wish to thank ACC Australia for its active participation in the review, and express our appreciation for the written submissions made by ACC Australia to both the Discussion Paper and RIS stages of the review.

The Board is pleased to note that ACC Australia supports the Board's preferred option as outlined in the RIS.

The Board has also noted ACC Australia's observation that the preferred option provides the same level of subsidisation of fees within each class of principal and employee practising certificates regardless of work arrangements, size or location of practice. The Board agrees an evaluation of data and feedback relating to the impacts of this aspect of the proposed Regulations should be included in the first stage of the evaluation process for the Regulations and will ensure that this occurs.

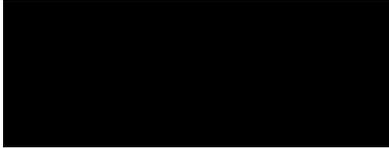
The Board has now had the opportunity to consider all of the submissions received and is not proposing to make any adjustments to the proposed fee settings in Option 3 in light of those submissions.

The Board has decided to formally recommend new fees for practising certificates for the 2018-19 financial year and beyond, in line with Option 3 as outlined in the RIS, to the Attorney-General and the Governor-in-Council. It is intended that new regulations prescribing those fees will be in place to replace the current regulations which are due to expire in late February 2018.

Victorian Legal Services **BOARD**

Once again I would like to thank you for contributing to the formal consultation stage of the review. Your submission and our response will be published, together with all other submissions and responses, on our website as the next stage in the review.

Yours sincerely



Fiona R Bennett
Chairperson