

10 January 2018



Legal Services
Telstra
Level 38, 242 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Via email: [Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Practising Certificate Fees Review: Response to Submission

Thank you for your email of 30 November 2017 enclosing Telstra's 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 Telstra for its active participation in the review, and express our appreciation for the written submissions made by Telstra to both the Discussion Paper and RIS stages of the review.

The Board is pleased to note that Telstra supports the Board's preferred option as outlined in the RIS. We note that Telstra's support for the preferred option is because the proposed stratified fee structure allows for practitioner classes with a lower regulatory burden, such as corporate legal practitioners, to pay less in practising certificate fees than those classes that give rise to a greater share of the regulatory costs.

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.

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.

Yours sincerely



Fiona R Bennett
Chairperson