



THE OFFICE OF THE **LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSIONER**

Media Statement

I welcome the upcoming start of the new regulatory provisions for the legal profession in New South Wales and Victoria and look forward to a national profession should the other states and territories see fit to join in coming years. Whilst the final details are still being put in place, I believe it will be important for my office and the respective professional bodies to undertake an extensive education program for the profession and the public in the early months of operation.

In light of the Attorney-General's announcement of 1st July 2015 as the commencement date for the Legal Profession Uniform Law (LPUL) and associated Regulations and Rules, the Office of the Legal Services Commissioner (OLSC) advises that a commonsense approach to the enforcement of any new and different regulatory provisions will be adopted. The determination of any disciplinary and consumer matters relating to any changed provisions will proceed on a case-by-case basis, bearing in mind the short lead time before commencement and the need for education about the changes.

As information on any changed provisions is successfully communicated to both the legal profession and the public in the early months of operation of the LPUL, any latitude shown will cease once it is reasonably assessed that all concerned have had sufficient opportunity to learn and adapt to any changes.

For further information on the LPUL visit:

The Law Society of New South Wales website

(<https://www.lawsociety.com.au/>)

New South Wales Bar Association website (<http://www.nswbar.asn.au/>)

John McKenzie

Legal Services Commissioner (NSW)

29 May 2015

Contact: Kym Bedford
Phone: 02 9377 1800
Email: olsc@agd.nsw.gov.au