



Victoria Government Gazette

No. S 394 Friday 24 August 2018
By Authority of Victorian Government Printer

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

County Court (Fees) Regulations 2018

Notice is given under section 11 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994** that a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) has been prepared in relation to the proposed County Court (Fees) Regulations 2018.

The proposed regulations will be made under section 79A of the **County Court Act 1986**. The proposal is to restructure the fees payable at the County Court of Victoria (the County Court) to optimise cost recovery from larger corporate and government users, while minimising the potential for fees to become a barrier to accessing justice for other users.

Objectives

The objective of these regulations is to allow the County Court to continue to charge fees once the current regulations expire, and to do so on an equitable basis which balances the Government's objectives in recovering the costs incurred in providing services, while promoting fair and increased access to justice.

The RIS explains the results of modelling undertaken by the County Court to identify the costs of its various activities, and considers models for future costs recovery. The preferred option creates a three tiered system with differentiated fees for different categories of users, and includes extended fee waiver provisions.

Submissions

Submissions on the RIS and proposed regulations are invited, and must be received no later than 5.00 pm on Sunday 23 September 2018. The submissions will be considered before the proposed regulations are made. Please note that all submissions will be treated as public documents and published on the Engage Victoria website, unless a submission clearly indicates that it is confidential. Submissions are also subject to the **Freedom of Information Act 1982**, and copies will be provided to the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee.

The Engage Victoria website is the preferred method for receiving submissions, and can be found at: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/county-court-fees>

Alternatively, submissions can be made by email, and can be sent to countycourtfees2018@justice.vic.gov.au with the subject 'County Court (Fees) Regulations 2018'.

Finally, submissions can also be received by post, marked 'County Court (Fees) Regulations 2018' and addressed to:

Director
Courts Policy and Dispute Resolution
Civil Justice Division
Department of Justice and Regulation
GPO Box 4356
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Copies of the RIS and proposed regulations can be obtained from the Engage Victoria website at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/county-court-fees>

THE HON. MARTIN PAKULA MP
Attorney-General

SPECIAL

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Level 2, 1 Macarthur Street
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