

Ms Erin Gough
Policy Manager
Law Reform and Sentencing Council Secretariat
NSW Department of Justice
GPO Box 31
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Gough

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the changes the NSW Law Reform Commission is considering recommending for the abolition of the "Adoption Information Directions" provisions currently in the Guardianship Act 1987 (NSW).

The Benevolent Society has provided state wide Post Adoption Services in Queensland and NSW for over 26 years. The Post Adoption Resource Centre (PARC) in NSW was established in 1991 after changes to legislation to enable the opening of past adoption records. PARC welcomes the opportunity to comment on these proposals.

The Benevolent Society supports the omission of Part 4A provisions from the new guardianship framework. Furthermore, PARC:

1. is not aware of Part 4A "Adoption Information Provisions" of the Guardianship Act 1987 NSW being used on any occasion
2. agrees that people are able to exercise their rights under the Adoption Act without requiring special provisions, including those needing decision –making assistance. We note that assisted decision-making arrangements are part of the new guardianship framework.
3. agrees that Part 4A is discriminatory without providing any advantage for the person requiring decision-making assistance.
4. agrees there is no need for a separate provision requiring adoption information direction from the Tribunal.

If you require any further information please contact Kylie Williams, Manager - Child and Family Services, [REDACTED]

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]
Leith Sterling
Director Operations, Child and Family Services - Queensland
[REDACTED]