



15 June 2015

Paul McKnight
Executive Director, Justice Strategy & Policy
GPO Box 31
SYDNEY 2001 NSW

By email: policy@justice.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr McKnight

Re: Guardianship Regulation 2016 Consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the public consultation draft of the proposed Regulation and Regulation Impact Statement (RIS). We support the proposed new regulation as described.

It is essential that our community are able to access these regulations without any legal ambiguity due to their relationship status with people of the same sex. While the relationships within our community are covered by laws concerning de facto status, in several crucial ways this remains inferior to full marriage. As a result of this, the Guardianship Act (and Regulation) are of heightened importance.

Guardianship arrangements are becoming increasingly important for members of our community. Many in our community are ageing without children or the same forms of traditional family structures that may provide support in the broader community. Additionally, those with a disability or with a mental illness in our community also derive significant benefit from these arrangements.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9206 2122 or at nparkhill@acon.org.au.

Kind regards

Nicolas Parkhill

Chief Executive Officer

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