

Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2015

Explanatory Notes for SL 2015 No. 15

Made under the

Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009

General Outline

Short title

Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2015

Authorising law

Sections 242 and 206BB of the *Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009* (the Act)

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of this amendment is to permit an extension of the Justices of the Peace (JP) trial in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) (the trial) until 14 May 2016. The trial will otherwise expire on 14 May 2015.

The trial enables trained JPs to be appointed to QCAT to hear and adjudicate some minor civil disputes (MCDs) up to \$5,000. MCDs include residential tenancy disputes, dividing fence disputes, minor debts as well as consumer and trader disputes.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objective is achieved by amending the *Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Regulation 2009* to extend the period before expiry of Chapter 4 Part 4B to the end of 13 May 2016.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The amendment is consistent with the policy objectives of the Act. It provides for an extension of Chapter 4 Part 4B pursuant to section 206BB.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The amendment is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The trial is currently funded until 30 June 2015. Funding beyond 30 June 2015 will be subject to the usual budget processes. If additional funding is not available, the trial can end on 30 June 2015 without any further legislative amendment.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The amendment is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

The Office of Best Practice Regulation was consulted and confirmed that a Regulatory Impact Statement is not required.

QCAT has been consulted and is supportive of the amendment.