

## Uniform Law takes vital step towards harmonisation

***The following statement can be attributed to Mr Duncan McConnel, President, Law Council of Australia:***

- The introduction of a uniform system of legal profession regulation has been a goal of the Law Council of Australia for many years. The Law Council considers the introduction of the Legal Profession Uniform Law (LPUL) in New South Wales and Victoria to be a significant milestone, a vital step towards a truly national profession, and a positive example of the profession taking a leadership role in setting its own standards.
- The objective of the reforms is to create a common legal services market in New South Wales and Victoria underpinned by a uniform regulatory system.
- The LPUL will commence operation in NSW and Victoria on 1 July 2015, and will replace the *Legal Profession Act 2004* in both jurisdictions. The LPUL will govern practising certificate types and conditions, maintaining and auditing of trust accounts, continuing professional development requirements, complaints handling processes, billing arrangements, and professional discipline issues.
- The Law Council wishes to ensure that practitioners from jurisdictions outside NSW and Victoria are informed about what the LPUL means for them, and has produced a [fact sheet](#) providing an overview of the arrangements that will apply from 1 July 2015.
- The Law Council is continuing to liaise with its Constituent Bodies on the implementation of the scheme, as well as with the Legal Services Commissioner and Legal Services Council.

*The final LPUL Rules have been published and are now available [online](#). For further information, visit the [Law Council's Uniform Law webpage](#).*

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