Submission form

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Summary of proposals

1. The Department proposals reflect two complementary drivers. First, users' expectations about how they access BDM information have changed since the access provisions were introduced in 2009. Second, enabling citizens to interact easily with government in a digital environment is a key Government Better Public Services target.

2. In the short to medium term, subject to existing legislative, systems, and technological constraints, the Department will investigate options for enhancing existing online services (eg, improved search functionality). Ultimately, the Department would like to facilitate access to BDM information via an all-of-BDM Internet-based search, pay-for-view, and records access and ordering facility, without compromising individual privacy and security interests.

3. Alongside the specific amendments to the access provisions detailed below, the Department wants to remove remaining legislative barriers to digital and online services (eg, by making language and delivery channels medium-neutral). This will support future enhancements for all BDM services, not just access to BDM information.

The Department proposes to—

General access rules

- Add historical and non-historical BDM indexes, but not full non-historical records, to the BDM information that can be searched online (some information may behind a paywall);
- Authorise unedited historical register images to be made available online (behind a paywall);
- Provide online access to BDM information (beyond an initial high level search) would be subject to evidence of identity established via a RealMe ID, or through another future solution that would enable a verified identity to be asserted online; and
- Allow a user with a verified identity to order a certificate or printout for a non-historical record online.

Do you support the proposals? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Please use this space for any additional comments:

On historical would like to see location registered a full date for births, deaths & marriages. Would love to see image for historical (but dont want to pay unless minimal cost) as I look at thousands in a year.
Would love wildcards in searches

Historical and non-historical information

- Reduce the time limit that defines historical marriage and civil union information from 80 years to 75 years; and
- Align rules for access to birth information (including information that could be made available through digital and online channels in future) based on when a death record becomes available.

Do you support the proposals? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Please use this space for any additional comments:

Source documents

- Classify Intention to Marry books as marriage registers, and authorise access in the same way, and subject to the same rules, as apply to solemnised marriage records.

Do you support the proposals? ☐ Yes ☑ No

Please use this space for any additional comments:

waste of money to do as only 14 years before it is not an issue - has been available up until now

Remaining access provisions

Access register; non-disclosure directions; research purposes; disclosure of death information

The Department has no specific proposals. We consider the current rules are appropriate and are working well; the individual privacy and security protections they provide will be integral in the context of the proposed new digital and online access channels.

Do you- ☑ Agree? ☐ Disagree?

Please use this space for any additional comments:

If you want to comment on any other matter related to the access provisions ...

... please use this space for your submission:

Click here to submit by Email to bdmreview@dia.govt.nz