

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on Phase 2 of the review of access to BDM data.

My submission is that there are too many instances of identity theft because of the way data is selectively supplied from the registers.

It is possible to obtain a birth certificate with no indication on that document that the subject is no longer alive.

There should only be one type of certificate ever issued, a "Certificate of entries on the births, deaths and marriages registers." This certificate would give all entries to all registers for an individual. Basically, if a person is born, married or died, or only some of these, it will appear on the certificate.

It may be appropriate to withhold some information regarding adoptions from the certificate, I don't have an opinion on that.

Peter Dowden