



Law Council
OF AUSTRALIA

Office of the President

9 February 2022

[REDACTED]
Chair
ARNECC
C/- PO Box 2222
MIDLAND WA 6936

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Dear Mr Roberts

Electronic Conveyancing National Law

I would like to begin by congratulating you on your recent appointment as the Chair of the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (**ARNECC**).

The Law Council looks forward to working closely with you during your term, in particular in ensuring the implementation of interoperability between Electronic Lodgement Network Operators (**ELNOs**).

As you will be aware, the Law Council strongly supports competition between ELNOs and considers interoperability to be a non-negotiable feature of the future of the eConveyancing market. In the Law Council's view, competition in this market will drive innovation for improved products and services users and maintain pressure on prices. It will ensure that members of the legal profession have a choice as to which ELNO is best for them and will mean that they are not required to be signed up to multiple ELNOs.

I note the Ministerial Statement of 28 January 2022, in which the Ministers announced that amendments to the Electronic Conveyancing National Law (**ECNL**) have been confirmed for introduction into New South Wales Parliament in February 2022.

The Law Council welcomes the Ministers' commitment to ensuring the implementation of interoperability as demonstrated by the impending introduction of the amendments. This is an important step in the process towards interoperability.

However, the Law Council notes that the issues raised in the Law Council's November 2021 submission remain to be addressed. The Law Council welcomes the undertaking from the Ministers and ARNECC to work with stakeholders, including the Law Council, to progress further amendments to the ECNL to be in place prior to full interoperability being operational.

The Law Council notes that it would be pleased for this letter to be shared with relevant Ministers.

Please contact John Farrell, Senior Policy Lawyer, on (02) 6246 3714 or at john.farrell@lawcouncil.asn.au, in the first instance, should you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tass Liveris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mr Tass Liveris
President