

Submission response form

Consultation on whether to introduce a director identification number

Please send your submission to corporate.law@mbie.govt.nz by **23 June 2017**.

Please provide your contact details below with your submission.

Paul Davies Law Ltd

Are you providing this submission:

- As an individual
 On behalf of an organisation

(Describe the nature and size of the organisation here)

Please select if your submission contains confidential information:

- I would like my submission (or specified parts of my submission) to be kept confidential, and attach my reasons for this for consideration by MBIE.

Reason:

1 Are you aware of the issues identified? Please describe the extent to which you think they are a problem.

I am not aware of the issues.

I regularly identify companies with a common director using the current search functions available at the Companies Office website.

2 Are there any other issues that we have not identified? If so, please describe them and provide evidence if available.

The only issue I have experienced in searching for directors is different spelling of the directors name, for example Phillip c/f Philip. As well, occasionally middle names are omitted and any change in spelling means another search. It is not that time consuming or difficult to do that, but more annoying that the integrity of the register is not right. The real issue is the absence of controls on the name that gets added to the director's consent form and uploaded – which can be done by the director themselves or a well-meaning professional that simply spells the directors name incorrectly

3 Do you think a director identification number is the best way to address the

issues identified?

I do not. I think that would be a backwards step.

4 What are your views on the proposed objectives for assessing whether to introduce a director identification number?

It is useful to be able to identify a director's home address in relation to defunct or poorly managed companies as it can provide a useful address for service of documents, which is frequently better than leaving proceedings at a registered office that no one attends.

5 What are your views on the benefits and costs of a director identification number? Are there any other benefits, costs or risks?

The costs or risks are at point 4.

In my view, it would be better to focus on the integrity of the data when director consent forms are uploaded.

6 Do you support the introduction of a director identification number?

No

7 If a director identification number is introduced, what are your views on how a number could work?

I really do not think it is worth even considering.

8 Do you have any other comments?

There are many more enforcement issues that would benefit from resource than focusing on this issue.