Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 30 June 2014 setting out your expectations for the Department of Health in its capacity as a business regulator. I am pleased to provide the Department's response.

The Department will continue to strive to improve and protect the health of Victorians through its role in the administration and enforcement of regulation. In doing so, the Department will examine the ways in which it regulates businesses to look for opportunities to make improvements that would reduce cost impacts.

The attached table focusses on those initiatives being undertaken by the Department that address the eight specific expectations identified by you. These initiatives will reduce regulatory costs, continue to promote improved regulatory outcomes and be delivered over 2014-15 and 2015-16 financial years.

Please note that regulatory decisions made by a delegate or officer under an Act about a particular business or individual must be based on the requirements of the legislation that is being applied, according to law. This response is not intended to fetter the exercise of discretion in such cases.
The statement of expectations will be incorporated into our ongoing planning processes and reporting at a general level will be incorporated into future Annual Reports. The response, including the attached table, will be published on the Department's website.

Yours sincerely

Dr Pradeep Phillip
Secretary

Encl. Table relating to the Statement of Priorities