

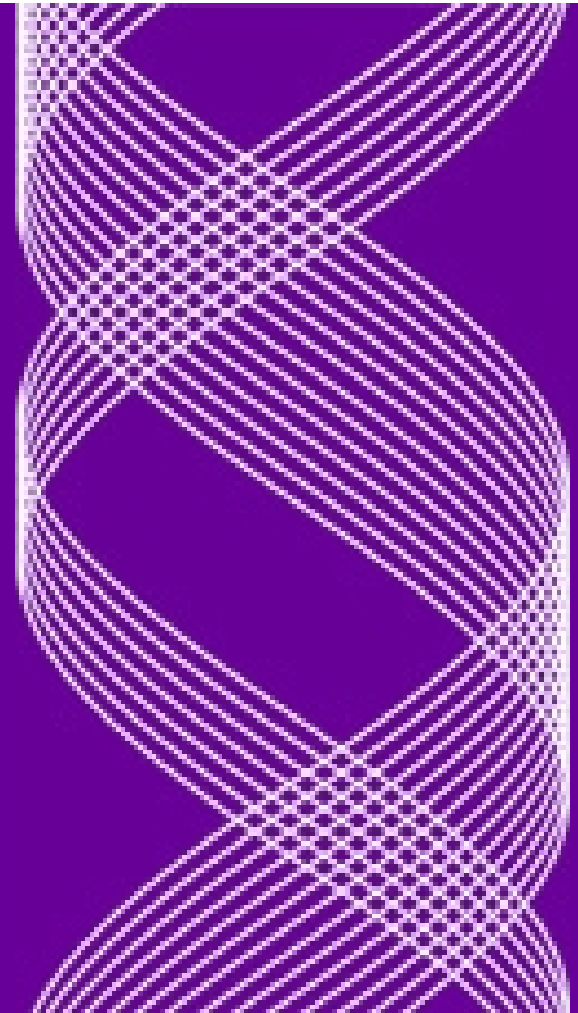


The UK Experience of Regulatory Impact Assessment

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Better Regulation Executive

Cabinet Office



A Potted History

- De-regulation to better regulation
- Move from DTI to Cabinet Office
- Introduction of Regulatory Impact Assessments in 1998
- Better Regulation Executive from May 2005

Principles of Good Regulation

- Proportionality
- Accountability
- Consistency
- Transparency
- Targeting

Inappropriate or ill-informed regulation can:

- Create unnecessary bureaucracy
- Add to firms' costs
- Inhibit competition
- Damage small businesses
- Create barriers to new firms
- Be unenforceable

This is what it can lead to...



UK RIA Process

Prompts key questions:

- Why is change needed?
- How can we get there?
- What are the alternatives to regulation?
- Enforcement & monitoring?
- *Do the benefits justify the costs?*

UK RIA Process

Provides a framework for policy makers:

- Evidence-based options analysis
- Risk and cost/benefit assessment
- Unintended consequences
- Effective consultation
- Planned implementation
- *Informed decision-making*

Continuous Improvement...

- Strong branding
- Networks across government
- High compliance - focus on quality
- Web-based guidance
- Rolling out beyond central government
- Culture change

Changes During 2004

RIAs strengthened and extended:

- PM scrutiny of major regulatory proposals
- RIAs have to be agreed with BRE
- Social and environmental impacts
- Public sector proposals

Changes during 2005

- More tomorrow.....

More information ?

Better Regulation Executive

[www.cabinet-office.gov.uk /regulation](http://www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/regulation)

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