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# **Experience of the United Kingdom in using Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) on the EU level**

**Kate Starkey, Cabinet Office, UK**

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## **The Development of RIAs in the UK**

- 1. The start of the deregulation agenda,  
1980s – 1990s**
- 2. The formalisation of RIAs and the  
better regulation agenda, since 1997**
- 3. Focus on deregulation, since 2010**

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## Recent Policy Initiatives in the UK

**‘One-in, two-out’** – for every new regulation, twice the cost of an existing regulation must be removed.

**Red Tape Challenge** – review of all existing regulations.

**Enforcement Review** – to see if inspections impose unnecessary burdens.

**Alternatives to Regulation**

**Reducing regulation on small businesses**

**Reducing the cost of EU legislation**

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## Governance of Regulatory Initiatives in the UK

- RIA guidance documents
- Better Regulation Executive
- Regulatory Policy Committee
- Reducing Regulation Cabinet Committee
- European Affairs Cabinet Committee

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## The UK's approach to EU Legislation

- Chose alternatives to regulation first
- Minimise burdens on businesses
- Engage early with the European Commission on new proposals
- Build alliances with other Member States to help negotiations
- Carry out RIAs at an early stage
- Do not gold-plate/over-implement EU legislation in transposition

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## Case Studies from the UK's use of RIAs at the EU Level

- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive
- Simpler financial reporting for micro-businesses – the Micro Directive
- Safety of Toys Directive

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## Key Lessons Learnt from the UK Perspective

1. Start RIAs as early as possible
2. Don't over complicate the information requirements in RIAs
3. RIAs are the evidence base for your negotiating positions in the EU

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## Any Questions?

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