

Australian Consumer Law Review

What is the Australian Consumer Law Review?

- Consumer affairs officials through Consumer Affairs Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) are undertaking a review of the Australian Consumer Law throughout 2016.
- The review will look at whether the law is operating as intended and addresses the risk of consumer detriment without imposing unnecessary red tape.
- It will also consider the 'single law multiple regulator' model (the joint enforcement arrangements between the Commonwealth, state and territory consumer protection agencies) and examine whether the national consumer policy framework is sufficiently flexible to address new and emerging issues.
- The Terms of Reference for the review can be found on the Australian Consumer Law website: www.consumerlaw.gov.au/review-of-the-australian-consumer-law.

Why are we reviewing the Australian Consumer Law?

An intergovernmental agreement requires the review to occur within seven years of the law's commencement on 1 January 2011. This is an opportunity to assess whether the law is working effectively with consumers and businesses encouraged to have their say.

What is involved?

- CAANZ will conduct a broad stakeholder consultation process, including the release of an Issues Paper for public comment in the first half of 2016.
- Feedback on the Issues Paper will inform the development of an interim report that will be released for consultation in the second half of 2016.



- The review will also include:
 - the second Australian Consumer Survey of consumer and business awareness of, and experience with, the Australian Consumer Law;
 - an analysis of consumer laws in other countries; and
 - an independent assessment of the ‘multiple regulator’ model (of Commonwealth, state and territory regulators) that administers and enforces the law, to assess whether it is effective and efficient in supporting a single national consumer policy framework.
- CAANZ will report to Consumer Affairs Ministers by March 2017. The report will make findings and identify options to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Australian Consumer Law.



How can I have my say?

You can email comments on the ACL at any time to: ACLReview@treasury.gov.au.

Further opportunities for public consultation will be available throughout 2016.

Where can I find more information?

General information about the Australian Consumer Law can be found at: www.consumerlaw.gov.au.



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The Treasury



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Competition &
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ASIC

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