

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

Division/Agency: Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

Question No: 37

Topic: ACL Review and PC Report

Reference: Written

Senator: Ketter, Chris

Question:

What consultation is the department doing with state ACL regulators and other stakeholders in relation to the Productivity Commission's report into Consumer Law Enforcement and Administration and the ACL Review? Is the department pursuing agreement with states regarding the reforms recommended by these two reviews? Is a meeting of ministers planned? If so, when and where? What has the department done so far on this since the release of those two reports?

Answer:

The ACCC is currently working with state and territory Australian Consumer Law (ACL) regulators, the Treasury and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) in relation to the Productivity Commission's (PC) study into *Consumer Law Enforcement and Administration* and the final report of the ACL Review. These reports were publicly released on 12 April 2017 and 19 April 2017 respectively.

Consumer Affairs Ministers, through the Legislative and Governance Forum on Consumer Affairs (CAF) and as per the Intergovernmental Agreement for the ACL, will consider a package of reforms at its 31 August 2017 meeting in Melbourne in relation to the ACL Review's final report and the PC's study. Since the release of these two reports, the ACCC has worked with ACL regulators, Treasury and ASIC through sub-committees established under Consumer Affairs Australia and New Zealand to progress various proposals ahead of a package of reforms being considered by Consumer Affairs Ministers.