



MEDIA RELEASE

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FSC SUBMISSION: ADVICE FEE CONSENTS AND INDEPENDENCE DISCLOSURE

The Financial Services Council (FSC) has recommended further consultation on ASIC's proposed legislative instrument (LI) to implement new forms of consent and independence disclosure to assist consumers.

This should be done once draft legislation is finalised and introduced to parliament in order to ensure the changes result in positive outcomes for consumers.

The FSC submission highlights a number of areas for further consultation when developing the final legislative instrument:

- ASIC should take a facilitative approach to immaterial defects in fee disclosure statements (FDSs) and the Annual Renewal Notice requirements to prevent penalties for technical breaches of the law for minor defects that have no impact on consumers;
- Obligations for product providers, trustees and advisers with regard to obtaining written consent need to be clarified and harmonised to minimise costs and complexity for clients, superannuation funds, advice licensees and advisers; and
- ASIC should explore options wherever possible for harmonising the fee disclosure statement (FDS) and annual opt-in requirements, and that this form the basis of extended consultation on the LI.

The FSC submission is response to ASIC Consultation Paper 329: Implementing the Royal Commission recommendations: Advice fee consents and independence disclosure.

Read the submission in full here: <https://fsc.org.au/resources/2002-fsc-submission-asic-consultation-paper-329-implementing-the-royal-commission-recommendations-advice-fee-consents-and-independence-disclosure/file>

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About the Financial Services Council

The Financial Services Council (FSC) has over 100 members representing Australia's retail and wholesale funds management businesses, superannuation funds, life insurers, financial advisory networks and licensed trustee companies. The industry is responsible for investing almost \$3 trillion on behalf of more than 14.8 million Australians. The pool of funds under management is larger than Australia's GDP and the capitalisation of the Australian Securities Exchange and is the fourth largest pool of managed funds in the world.