



MEDIA RELEASE

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Statement on the new ASIC structure

The Financial Services Council (FSC) welcomes a new, stronger ASIC with an increased focus on enforcement.

FSC CEO Sally Loane said: "The strongest regulatory regime in the world will never be effective unless laws are enforced.

"We believe consumer trust in financial services will be strongly boosted by a new ASIC which is focused on enforcement."

"More transparency, better governance and a stronger focus on enforcement are the outcomes for ASIC which were recommended by the Financial System Inquiry and the ASIC Capability Review.

"We support the Government's decision to exempt ASIC from the Public Service Act which will allow the corporate regulator to recruit staff who have a strong understanding of the market it supervises.

"We also support the Government's user pays model for ASIC. The financial services industry has long been prepared to fund the regulator on the principle that sectors which require regulation should pay for it.

"We believe the package announced today should be swiftly implemented. After 15 reviews into financial services and little change to ASIC, we support action, not further reviews or inquiries."

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For further information contact the FSC on (02) 9299 3022 or via FSCMediaOffice@fsc.org.au

About the Financial Services Council

The Financial Services Council (FSC) has over 115 members representing Australia's retail and wholesale funds management businesses, superannuation funds, life insurers, financial advisory networks, licensed trustee companies and public trustees. The industry is responsible for investing more than \$2.6 trillion on behalf of 11.5 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 third largest pool of managed funds in the world. The Financial Services Council promotes best practice for the financial services industry by setting mandatory Standards for its members and providing Guidance Notes to assist in operational efficiency.