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CEO Update

I trust you've all spent a battery-charging break with your family and friends over Christmas and are ready to launch into 2017 – a year that promises to be even more hectic for our sector than 2016. Last year was dubbed the “festival of life insurance” – and this year promises to be the “festival of financial services.” We have a lot of work to do, and a short timeframe in which to do it.

With the Government having demonstrated its ability to negotiate the complexities of the Senate, the next 12 months are critical. A slew of reforms across life insurance, advice, superannuation and funds management needs to be completed this year. Anything that drifts into 2018 runs into the real risk that the Government - and indeed the entire parliament - shifts focus squarely on preparing for an election campaign.

Our ambitious agenda for you, our members, can be summed up in the words of Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull when he addressed our final FSC-BT Political Series breakfast for 2016, just nine days before Christmas.

2017 Life Insurance Conference



Date: 30 March 2017
 Time: 8.30am – 5.00PM
 Venue: Level 4, ICC
 Convention Centre, Sydney
 Darling Harbour
 Dress Code: Business Attire

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State of the Industry Lunch



Date: 1 March 2017
 Time: 12.00 – 2.00PM
 Venue: Doltone House, Hyde
 Park 3/181 Elizabeth Street
 Sydney NSW 2000

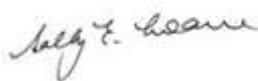
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He stressed the importance of competition in all sectors of the economy, including in superannuation and financial services, saying: "The path to prosperity is built on freedom, it's built on economic reform, it's built on open markets, it's built on encouraging investment and the employment that comes from it." We could not agree more. First and foremost, our superannuation system must catch up with the rest of the economy and be exposed to open markets. The default system must be unshackled from the redundant industrial laws which protect and shelter much of the \$2 trillion system from competition. Consumers can only benefit.

And to give our funds management industry half a chance to become the next big export earner, income driver and jobs creator, we must simplify our frustratingly complex non-resident withholding tax regime in time for the start of the Asia Region Funds Passport. Right now, it's nothing better than an appendix in our tax system – useless and uncompetitive to the point of collecting virtually nil tax and only discouraging prospective investors.

These are just two examples of our 2017 agenda.

We need the commitment and intellectual heft of you, our valued members, perhaps more than ever before. Get on our working groups, put your shoulder to the wheel and let's ensure we have a lot to celebrate during the "festival of financial services" in 2017.



Limited early bird registration closing soon



If connecting with some of Australia's leading professionals in the life insurance community is high on your priority list for 2017, then there is no better time to secure your place at the FSC Life Insurance Conference – 30 March 2017.

FSC Leaders Summit 2017



Date: 25 - 26 July 2017
Time: 8.30am – 5.00pm
Venue: ICC Convention Centre, Sydney, Darling Harbour
Dress code: Business attire

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Missed the 2016 BT Political Series?



Click [HERE](#) for a full recap with guest speaker, The Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon Malcolm Turnbull

[MEDIA RELEASES](#)

Limited early bird registration will be closing on Tuesday 31 January 2017 and with the 2016 conference sold out, now is the time to book your place to avoid disappointment.

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We are constantly updating the program with new speakers and sessions being confirmed every week. Take a look at the program in development [here](#).

And don't forget to nominate outstanding individuals for the Financial Services Council 2017 Life Insurance Awards. Winners will be announced at the FSC Life Insurance Awards Dinner on Wednesday 29 March, 2017. Applications are open from now until 24 February 2017. Find more information on the Awards, as well as the 2016 winners, [here](#).

Thank you to our Major Partner, Bravura Solutions, and all our [Conference sponsors](#) for their continued support of this event.

Life Insurance Code of Practice Workshops



The FSC has partnered with insurance law experts Minter Ellison and Herbert Smith Freehills to offer members a series of workshops which will provide a deep-dive into various sections and themes within the Code and their real world application.

These workshops will assist insurers and others within the broader life insurance industry to think about how the Code will operate in practice and aid in ensuring compliance with the Code by July 1 2017.

There will be six workshops which will cover different aspects of the FSC Life Insurance Code of Practice.

Sense of control & good returns driving satisfaction with SMSF



Three quarters of Self Managed Super Fund holders report being satisfied...[continue>>](#)

FSC Welcomes new Premier of NSW

The Financial Services Council welcomes Gladys Berejiklian...[continue>>](#)

Media Release: Insurance within Superannuation provides critical economic and social benefits



Group insurance like the kind offered through super funds gives more than 9 out of 10

For more information on all workshops and how to register, please click below.

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working Australians
...[continue>>](#)

FSC appoints a new Director of Policy

The FSC announced recently that it has appointed former ANZ Wealth executive Allan Hansell as its Director of Policy, succeeding Andrew Bragg.

Mr Hansell brings to the FSC more than 25 years in politics and policy having worked in government, industry and private sector roles. He has also worked as a senior adviser to Ministers in the NSW and Victorian governments.

"We are delighted to have Allan joining us. With more than a quarter of a century of experience across Government and the wealth management industry including policy development, media relations and deep stakeholder engagement, he has the credentials to take us forward into a very busy year for financial services," FSC CEO, Sally Loane, said.

FSC SPM Carla Hoorweg to participate in JENESYS program

Senior Policy Manager, Carla Hoorweg, has been selected as a participant in the JENESYS program under the Economics stream and will be travelling to Japan during late January.

The JENESYS program (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths) is a project advanced by the Japanese government from the standpoint of providing a sound foundation for strong solidarity within Asia through large-scale youth exchange.

The program's objective is to promote a global understanding of Japan's economy, society, politics, agribusiness, the strength of local products, and to strengthen the economic relationship between Japan

and Australia by inviting professionals who can proactively disseminate information in their home countries.

Carla will report back on the outcomes of the program when she returns.

Thank you,

Financial Services Council

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FUTURE
FIRST

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