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Summary of Final ACL Report

Members are advised that the Final report for the Review of Australian Consumer Law (ACL), conducted by Consumer Affairs Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ), has today been welcomed by Federal Small Business Minister, Michael McCormack

Commissioned on 31 March 2016, the Review assesses the effectiveness of existing laws and, whether new and emerging issues can be addressed.

VACC and its interstate Motor Trade Associations have all entered submissions on behalf of the retail automotive sector. You can find a copy of the VACC submission by clicking here.

The final report drew on data generated from the Australian Consumer Survey 2016. The survey found that consumers advised that that 41% of problems with a motor vehicle (including fuel) were detected within the first week of purchase and another 16% of consumers advised that problems were detected within the first month of purchase. It is interesting to note that non-electrical household goods and electronic and electrical products scored higher percentages of problems.

You can view the final report by taking this link.

CAANZ findings and proposed package of reforms

CAANZ have listed 19 proposals varying in scope and complexity where the ACL could be improved. There are a further four non-legislative actions identified to be undertaken by regulators and consumer policy agencies to assist in improving clarity, transparency, and intent of the ACL.

CAANZ also identified seven further priority areas for further investigation. Ministers will consider the package of proposals when they meet at some stage later in 2017.

Over the next two days VACC will continue to analyse the Final report and report back to members.

Please feel free to call with any queries.

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