
New Ministers



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The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is an independent statutory authority which performs the functions conferred on it by the Trade Practices Act and the Prices Surveillance Act.

With the change of government in 1996, the Treasury retained portfolio responsibility for the Commission. The Commission liaises with Treasury on restrictive trade practices and prices matters. The responsible Minister is the Honourable Peter Costello MP (Treasurer).



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On consumer protection and small business matters the Commission will report to the Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs (within the Industry, Science and Tourism portfolio). Previously the Commission reported to the Minister for Consumer Affairs in the Attorney-General's portfolio. The responsible Ministers are the Honourable John Moore MP (Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism) and the Honourable Geoff Prosser MP (Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs).

In relation to Part X of the Act (International Liner Cargo Shipping) the Commission liaises with the Minister for Transport and Regional Development, the Honourable John Sharp MP, and with the Department of Transport and Regional Development. Previously the Commission liaised with the Minister for Transport and Communications and with the Department of Transport and Communications.

The Commission also has close contact with other departments and Ministers in relation to a variety of responsibilities under other legislation, including:

- Broadcasting Services Act (Communications and the Arts);
- Telecommunications Act (Communications and the Arts);
- Moomba–Sydney Pipeline System Sale Act (Primary Industries and Energy);
- Health Insurance Act (Health and Family Services); and
- Trade Marks Act (Industry, Science and Tourism).