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# New deputy chair

## ACCC deputy chair, Louise Sylvan



On 10 November the Treasurer, Mr Peter Costello, announced the appointment of Ms Louise Sylvan as deputy chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. The appointment is for five years.

Ms Sylvan comes to the ACCC with a strong background in protecting the interests of consumers. She was chief executive officer of the Australian Consumers' Association for 10 years before joining the ACCC, was a founding director of the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia and serves on the consumer policy committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). She is a member of the Australian Government's expert group on electronic commerce and the Australian Statistics Advisory Council.

She has served on the Prime Minister's economic planning advisory council and the self-regulation task force.

Louise Sylvan was born in Canada and holds a BA (Dean's Honours List) from the University of Western Ontario and a Master of Public Administration (First Class) from the University of Victoria, British Columbia. She holds dual Australian and Canadian citizenship.

She has been an active worker in consumer protection, both nationally and internationally, for over 15 years. She is especially well known for her work in enhancing consumer rights in a range of areas such as health, food safety, financial services as well as in competition and consumer policy.

Her strong impact on current issues was recognised by her inclusion as one of Australia's 20 true leaders in 2002 by the Australian Financial Review's *Boss* magazine.

Mr Costello said that 'Ms Sylvan will bring to the Commission extensive skills in public administration and consumer protection. I welcome her appointment to the Commission'.