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MEMBER BRIEF

FOOD AND GROCERY CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW

On 2 March 2018, the Assistant Minister to the Treasurer, the Hon. Michael Sukkar MP released the terms of reference for the Food and Grocery Code of Conduct (FGCC) review and announced that Prof. Graeme Samuel AC has been selected as the independent expert to lead the review.

The review is intended to ensure that the code is working effectively as the first prescribed voluntary code under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*. The code regulates the conduct of those supermarket retailers and wholesalers who have agreed to be bound by the code in their dealings with suppliers.

Upon introduction of the code in 2014, Government also committed to review the code three years from its commencement. This requirement is prescribed in the *Competition and Consumer (Industry Codes – Food and Grocery) Regulation 2015*.

Treasury will instigate public consultation, with a range of stakeholders shortly. An issues paper will be released followed by a draft report, with a final report due to the Government within six months.

The AFGC Secretariat has a robust plan of work to ensure the views of members are well represented. To assist the Secretariat members are requested to:

- Provide details of non-compliant FGCC retail behaviors to Samantha Blake (samantha.blake@afgc.org.au or 0439 585 073), all feedback will be confidential.
- Ensure your business completes the AFGC Annual FGCC Survey on its release in May.
- Participate in the inaugural Trade Spend Benchmarking scheme on its publication, likely April.
- Members are also encouraged to lodge their own submissions to the Review.

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