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www.acc.gov.au

By email

Dear Interested Party

### **The Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia Limited - application for revocation of authorisation AA1000402 and substitution of new authorisation AA1000639 - draft determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for revocation and substitution lodged by The Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia Limited on 23 March 2023.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 5 years.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached and also available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

This letter is to invite you to comment on the ACCC's draft determination. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

#### **Next steps**

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

#### **Making a submission**

Submissions should be lodged via the web form accessible on the public register page for this matter. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact myself via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called - see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

#### **Optional pre-decision conference**

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference in relation to its draft determination. If a conference is called it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and make oral submissions in relation

to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **3 November 2023** by email to [exemptions@acc.gov.au](mailto:exemptions@acc.gov.au).


## Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
<b>23 March 2023</b>	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
<b>April 2023</b>	Public consultation process on application and request for interim authorisation.
<b>26 May 2023</b>	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
<b>August 2023</b>	Public consultation on further information provided.
<b>20 October 2023</b>	Draft determination.
<b>October/November 2023</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>December 2023</b>	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact myself on (02) 9230 9188.

Yours sincerely



Naomi Menon  
Director  
Competition Exemptions