



Our ref: AA1000639
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Dear Interested Party

**The Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia Limited application for authorisation
AA1000639 — interim authorisation decision**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has decided to grant interim authorisation in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by The Hospitals Contribution Fund of Australia Limited (**HCF**) on 26 May 2023. A copy of the ACCC decision is attached.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the application.

Next steps

The next step in the process is for the ACCC to release a draft determination which will take into account submissions from HCF and interested parties and will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the application. The ACCC will give both HCF and interested parties the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final decision.

As noted in the attached decision, the ACCC may review its decision on interim authorisation at any time. In this regard the ACCC will reconsider this decision at the time of issuing its draft determination. The ACCC's decision in relation to interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

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 Rebecca Ryan on (02) 6243 1300.

Yours sincerely

Naomi Menon
Director
Competition Exemptions