



2018-19 ASIC Business Plan Summary by Sector Financial Advice

Key projects	Project Status	Focus
Change behaviours to drive good consumer and investor outcomes		
Approved product list (APL) reporting regime	New project	Developing an APL reporting regime for firms that issue products and provide advice, after considering which entities it should apply to, how they will report their data, and how we can ensure data is reliable and consistent
Quality of self-managed super fund (SMSF) financial advice following Future of Financial Advice (FOFA) reforms	Continuing 2016-17 project	Providing information and support to guide consumers' decisions about setting up SMSFs and engaging where poor advice has been provided to consumers. This follows our regulatory action over the past several years and the publication of our review findings in July 2018.
Enhancing the regulatory regime	Continuing 2017-18 project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Providing guidance on code monitoring scheme approval so that industry is informed about the new requirements and commencing the approval process ◆ Consumer research to help us better understand the role of financial advice in Australians' lives including awareness and understanding of general and personal advice
Professionalism and training of financial advisers	Continuing 2017-18 project	Implementing the professional standards reforms including amendments to the Financial Advisers Register and to affected regulatory guidance.
Act against misconduct to maintain trust and integrity in the financial system		
Conflicted payments in the financial advice industry *	New project	Analysing data on the extent and aspects of allowable conflicted remuneration e.g. grandfathered commissions and conflicted remuneration allowed by FOFA
Compliance with the fee disclosure statement (FDS)	New project	Testing industry compliance with the FDS and renewal notice obligations, including reviewing samples of documentation provided to clients by licensees



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and opt-in arrangements		
Quality of life insurance advice	Continuing 2016-17 project	Identifying and banning advisers who have provided poor advice – or taking other regulatory action where appropriate – following our analysis of advisers with a higher likelihood of providing non-compliant life insurance advice
Advice compliance at the big five financial advice firms	Continuing 2015-16 project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Banning non-compliant advisers who have been identified as part of previous reviews – or taking other regulatory action where appropriate◆ Monitoring firms' consumer remediation programs for customers who received non-compliant advice between 1 January 2009 to 30 June 2015, including remediation results and the amount paid to clients by each firm◆ Monitoring supervision process improvements at licensees; we anticipate settling agreed actions with each firm by 2019–20, with ongoing monitoring until 2020–21
Fee-for-no-service	Continuing 2015-16 project	Monitoring firms' remediation programs for fee-for-no-service breaches, as a follow-up to <i>Report 499 Financial advice: Fees for no service (REP 499)</i> . We will continue to investigate misconduct and take enforcement action
Quality of financial advice in superannuation*	New project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Understanding what advice services a range of superannuation funds offer their members and how conflicts of interest are managed◆ Testing the quality of advice provided to members through file reviews
Timeshare advice and sales*	New project	Reviewing ASIC's approach to regulating timeshare holiday schemes, including samples of advice that have been provided to potential members
Insurance in superannuation*	Continuing 2016-17 project	Claims and complaints handling, member engagement, and disclosure practices relating to group cover in superannuation, including monitoring the adoption of the <i>Insurance in Superannuation Voluntary Code of Practice</i> , in conjunction with APRA



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Whistle-blower protections and reforms*	New project	Implement reforms to the whistle-blower protection regime, analyse and identify trends in various data sources (Internal Dispute Resolution, External Dispute Resolution and Reports of Misconduct to ASIC) and conduct intelligence assessments.
Promote strong and innovative development of the financial system		
Innovation Hub*	Ongoing	Managing informal assistance requests and licensing applications from fintech start-up businesses, including the regulatory sandbox licensing exemption and individual relief applications
RegTech Initiatives*	New Project	Drive the development and use of RegTech solutions by financial services firms and ASIC to deliver better regulatory compliance and outcomes for consumers, through problem solving events, collaborative supervision trials, stocktake projects, and internal trials
Competition*	New Project	Establish a framework and develop capability for ASIC to consider the effects of competition in ASIC's regulatory decisions, including in relation to financial advice. Engage with other government agencies to ensure ASIC's framework compliments the whole of government approach to competition.
Help Australians to be in control of their financial lives		
Financial capability in schools	Ongoing	Support increased financial capabilities across the formal education sector and support schools to deliver financial literacy education in the classroom
Financial literacy and consumer education	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Using financial literacy resources and behavioural insights to develop consumer education messages, campaigns and resources, as required◆ Reviewing and updating the MoneySmart website in response to surveillance findings, issues and initiatives in the market.