



Our ref: AA1000641
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Dear Interested Party

Application for authorisation AA1000641 – interested party consultation

On 9 May 2023, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for authorisation from Fred IT Group Pty Ltd. This letter is to invite you to comment. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

Fred IT Group and its related entities (including eRx Script Exchange Pty Ltd) (collectively, **Fred IT Group**) seek authorisation¹ under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth). Authorisation would give it legal protection from competition laws to make arrangements with MediSecure, to facilitate a transition from multiple parties providing services in respect of publicly funded electronic prescriptions to Fred IT Group being the sole provider. Following this transition, Fred IT Group will be the sole provider of Prescription Delivery Services for electronic prescriptions which are publicly funded, pursuant to an agreement between Fred IT Group and the Department of Health. Fred IT Group is seeking authorisation for 3 years.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Interim authorisation

Fred IT Group has also requested interim authorisation to allow it to commence the transition period with MediSecure prior to the ACCC's final determination in relation to the substantive application for authorisation.

Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for authorisation. In making your submission, please provide information, evidence and views about the likely public benefits, effects on competition and any other public detriment that you consider will result from the proposed conduct.

If you intend to provide a submission, please do so by **16 June 2023**. If you wish to request an extension, please contact us on the details below as early as possible. Submissions after the due date (or after any extension granted) may not be taken into account. Submissions in relation to interim authorisation should be provided by **26 May 2023**. Extensions are not normally granted for submissions on interim authorisation.

¹ For information about Authorisations, please see <https://www.accc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation>

Submissions should be lodged via the web form accessible on the public register page for this matter, which can be found [on the ACCC's public register](#). Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Sophie Magliano via the details at the end of this letter.

Your submission **will** be placed on the ACCC's [authorisations public register on the internet](#) unless you have made a request (with reasons) for us to exclude part or all of the submission from the public register (see [Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register for more information on how to make a request and how we assess requests](#)).

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information, and an up to date version (including any changes) will be posted on the public register.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
9 May 2023	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
17 May 2023	Public consultation process begins.
26 May 2023	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation.
June 2023	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
16 June 2023	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
June/July 2023	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
July 2023	Draft determination.
July 2023	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
September 2023	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Sophie Magliano on 03 9658 6429 or exemptions@accc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



David Hatfield
Director
Competition Exemptions