

15 May 2020

Kai Fu  
Director  
Adjudication Branch  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
23 Marcus Clarke Street  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Fu

**SCENTRE GROUP & SHOPPING CENTRE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA  
APPLICATION AUTHORISATION AA1000489**

We refer to our letter dated 8 May 2020 and to your request of 11 May 2020 for a further update on the outcomes of the SCCA meeting of yesterday, 14 May 2020.

As foreshadowed, at yesterday's meeting the Board of the SCCA discussed the Mandatory Code of Conduct, entitled "*SME Commercial Leasing Principles During COVID-19*", introduced by the Commonwealth Government (which is being implemented through legislation in each of the States and Territories across Australia) and concluded that, in light of that Code, there was not now a need for SCCA co-ordinated SME rent relief in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic (of the nature proposed to be the subject of the SCCA's authorisation). In the circumstances the SCCA has decided to withdraw its application for authorisation and is content for the interim authorisation granted on 3 April 2020 to no longer continue to operate.

The SCCA wishes to thank the ACCC for its timely and professional consideration of the SCCA's application for interim authorisation in early April – at a time prior to the introduction of the Code.

In light of this withdrawal of the SCCA's application for authorisation, which is supported by the other applicant (Scentre Group), we confirm the assumption that we understand is being made by SCCA members, pending your response to the contrary, is that the ACCC will no longer be looking to receive the information it has sought of a number of the members of the SCCA in letters sent yesterday - which are said to have been sent on the basis that the information requested would assist the ACCC to assess whether the interim authorisation would deliver public benefits.

Regards



**Peter Speed**

