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3 December 2020

Ms Joanne Palisi Director, Competition Exemptions Australian Competition and Consumer Commission 23 Marcus Clarke Street Canberra ACT 2601

C/- Mr Alex Reed Analyst | Mergers, Exemptions and Digital Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

By email: <u>alex.reed@accc.gov.au</u>

Dear Ms Palisi,

Re: National Retail Association Limited on behalf of itself and participating industry organisations - AA1000512

We write regarding your request for information dated 26 November 2020 pursuant to paragraph 4.11 of the abovementioned authorisation (**the Authorisation**).

We provide the below response on behalf of the National Retail Association Limited (NRA) and the other applicants.

National Retail Association Limited

The NRA is not aware of any material meetings or communications engaged in by its members about Tenant Conduct or Landlord Conduct, and does not hold any records of any such meetings or communications.

Pharmacy Guild of Australia

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia (**PGA**) is not aware of any material meetings or communications engaged in by its members about Tenant Conduct or Landlord Conduct, and does not hold any records of any such meetings or communications.

The PGA advises that reference to the authorisation by individual tenants in discussions with their individual landlords has led to constructive discussions between the parties, but there have been no discussions between members of the PGA under the terms of the authorisation.

Australian Hotels Association

The NRA forwarded the ACCC's request for information dated 26 November 2020 to the Australian Hotels Association (AHA) on 27 November 2020, and followed-up on 3 December 2020.

As at the date of this correspondence, the NRA has not been provided with any information regarding the use of the Authorisation by members of the AHA.



Franchise Council of Australia Limited

The Franchise Council of Australia Limited (**FCA**) has held three material meetings in relation to Tenant Conduct and Landlord Conduct under the terms of the authorisation. A copy of the minutes of these meetings are provided alongside this correspondence.

The FCA requests that the minutes of these meetings be kept confidential as the information contained in those minutes:

- is of a commercially sensitive nature;
- may result in persons who are not subject to the authorisation being privy to information shared between members of FCA inappropriately having access to that information;
- may prejudice further discussions between the tenants and landlords in question; and
- may adversely affect the commercial relationship between landlords mentioned in those minutes and other tenants who are not subject of the authorisation.

Australian Newsagents' Federation Limited

The Australian Newsagents' Federation Limited t/a Australian Lottery and Newsagents Association (ALNA) has advised no use of the Authorisation by its members, and consequently no records of any material meetings or communications.

Australian Federation of Travel Agents Limited

The Australian Federation of Travel Agents (**AFTA**) has advised that the broad dispersal of its members within retail precincts is such that its members have been unable to make use of the Authorisation.

As such, there have been no material meetings or communications engaged in by members of AFTA of which AFTA is aware, and therefore holds no records of such meetings or communications.

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay Carroll Deputy Chief Executive Officer National Retail Association