

Media release

2 February 2017

FSC supports FMA's view that good conduct is good business

The Financial Markets Authority (FMA) today released revised guidance - "A guide to the FMA's view of conduct" (Guide). The Financial Services Council of New Zealand (FSC) wholeheartedly supports the FMA's view that good conduct is good business.

Richard Klipin, FSC Chief Executive Officer, says the FMA wants the market to aim high.

"The FSC supports the FMA's aim, but the regulator must always identify what is an obligation and what is an aspiration. The FSC welcomes the better-defined scope of this Guide, and particularly confirmation that the Guide does not replace or supplement existing obligations."

Richard says the focus on customers in the Guide aligns with the approach taken by members of the FSC.

"The new Guide has better clarity on what it means to provide good customer outcomes. The FSC is supporting members by developing a Code of Conduct, which will assist members to demonstrate a good conduct profile.

"FSC members work hard to support their customers. But the new emphasis in the Guide that customers are also required to make good decisions is welcome. The FSC strongly supports the Guide's focus on good governance, fairness and transparency," he says.

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If you have any comments on this media release or would like any further information please contact Richard Klipin, Chief Executive Officer, Financial Services Council of New Zealand on 021 023 35414 or Richard.Klipin@fsc.org.nz.

Information about the FSC

The FSC represents investment and life insurance companies in New Zealand. The FSC has 14 member companies and 14 associate members. Companies represented in the FSC include the major insurers in life, disability, income, and trauma insurance, and some fund managers and KiwiSaver providers. Law firms, audit firms, and other providers to the financial services sector are represented among the associate members.

The FSC's purpose is to:

FinancialServicesCouncil.

growing and protecting the wealth of New Zealanders

- be recognised as an organisation that represents the interests of the New Zealand financial services industry, including to regulators and Government;
- promote best practice and integrity in the financial services industry, including through the institution of codes of conduct, standards and the publication of guidance for industry participants;
- promote the financial services industry for the economic benefit of New Zealand and to enhance the sustainability of the industry, whilst recognising the primacy of the interests of consumers;
- develop and promote evidence-based policies and practices designed to assist New Zealanders to build and protect their wealth;
- promote the financial services industry as a medium for investment and protection for consumers;
- promote, assist and generally advance the interests of members.