

> Allens

ACCC MARKET STUDIES AND INQUIRIES

The ACCC is increasingly conducting market studies and inquiries to review competition and consumer protection issues on an industry-wide basis. These studies and inquiries can:

- > involve significant information and document requests;
- > lead to important regulatory reform and changes in commercial practices; and
- > result in the ACCC taking enforcement action where it uncovers suspected competition or consumer law breaches.

> ACCC area of focus

Over the last three years, the ACCC has conducted 13 market studies and inquiries into a variety of industries ranging from financial services to electricity, gas and digital platforms.

ACCC Chairman Rod Sims has confirmed that market studies and inquiries remain a key part of the ACCC's work programme.

Areas of focus for the ACCC in 2019 include:

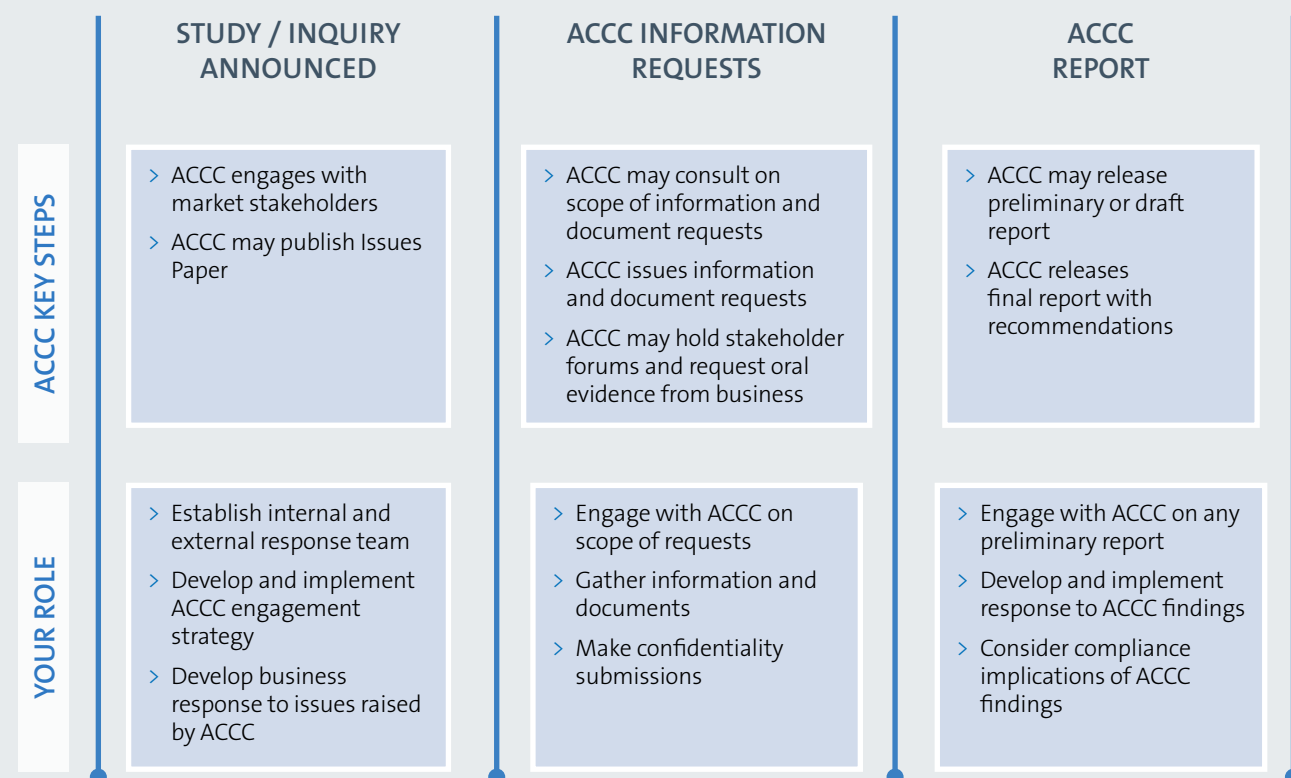
- > Customer loyalty schemes
- > Financial services
- > Energy
- > Agriculture

> Potential outcomes

We have seen a range of outcomes of ACCC market studies and inquiries which have had significant impact on the way companies conduct their business, including:

- Enforcement action
- Structural market reforms
- Price regulation
- Initiatives to enhance price transparency and facilitate customer switching
- New industry codes

> Lifecycle of an ACCC market study/inquiry



> Allens' expertise

Our Competition, Consumer & Regulatory Team are leading advisors on ACCC market studies and inquiries.

We have acted for major industry participants on ACCC market studies and inquiries including:

- > Digital platforms
- > Foreign exchange
- > Home loan price inquiry
- > Residential mortgages
- > Northern Australia insurance
- > Retail electricity
- > East Coast gas
- > Dairy
- > New car retailing

Allens Arrow is an integrated, flexible and bespoke service to help clients respond to ACCC document requests more efficiently and cost effectively. We do this by drawing on the expertise of legal technology and review specialists as well as cutting-edge technology such as:

- > Document analytics
- > Artificial intelligence
- > Predictive coding

Allens is ranked:

> TOP TIER

Competition/Antitrust – Australia
Chambers Asia-Pacific 2019

> TOP TIER

'Elite' ranking – Australia
Global Competition Review 2019

> TOP TIER

Competition and Trade – Australia
The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2019

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