

A NEW BANKING CODE OF PRACTICE FOR AUSTRALIA

A new Banking Code of Practice has now been approved by the independent government regulator ASIC.

This Code will be enforceable as part of a customer's contract with their bank.

This is a strong commitment to ethical and transparent behaviour, responsible lending and greater financial protection for customers.

Practical benefits include:

- more information about changes to customers' accounts, and greater assistance to vulnerable customers
- simplified small business loan contracts with fewer conditions for more than 92% of businesses
- new cooling off periods for guarantors, and

- an independent compliance committee with specific small business and agribusiness expertise to investigate breaches of the Code.

The Australian Banking Association will require banks to sign up to the new Code and fully implement it by July 2019.

Banks will now begin training around 130,000 staff around Australia and changing systems wherever needed to meet the Code's requirements.

Australian banks are committed to providing better banking for all Australians.

A copy of the new Banking Code of Practice is available at www.ausbanking.org.au/code



Australian Banking
Association