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Feedback needed on tenancy regulations

Consumer Protection is seeking feedback from property managers, property owners and tenants during the formulation of the new regulations to implement changes to tenancy laws in WA.

The Residential Tenancies Amendment Act was passed by State Parliament in November 2011 and the Department is drafting regulations to support the new laws.

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Anne Driscoll advises that a consultation paper has been prepared and urges those who wish to contribute to view the paper online.

The consultation paper addresses five key areas:

- the content of the mandatory residential tenancy agreement;
- the content of the property condition reports;
- the amount of the capped option fee;
- clarifying the minimum security obligations for residential rental premises; and
- clarifying which urgent repairs should be considered essential services.

“The changes to residential tenancy laws are designed to create a fairer and more efficient rental marketplace, so it’s important that interested groups and individuals view the consultation paper and provide us with their feedback before the regulations are finalised,” Ms Driscoll said.

“This feedback will assist in developing regulations that meet the needs of both tenants and landlords and are expected to be in place by the end of the year.”

The closing date for submissions is 10 May 2012. The discussion paper is available at: www.commerce.wa.gov.au/CPCConsultations or a hard copy can be arranged by calling **1300 30 40 54** or by emailing consumer@commerce.wa.gov.au .