Minister for Fair Trading
Minister for Youth
Minister for Volunteering

Linda Burney MP

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MEDIA RELEASE
Seniors Week 6 – 13 April 2008

CONSUMERS TIPS FOR SENIORS NOW IN AUDIO

As part of Seniors Week celebrations, NSW Fair Trading Minister, Linda Burney, today launched audio resources to help seniors understand their rights as consumers.

Speaking at an event at Parliament House, Ms Burney said consumer protection was an important yet sometimes difficult and confusing issue to deal with for older Australians and those who have difficulty reading printed information.

“With this in mind, the Office of Fair Trading has joined forces with Vision Australia to develop an audio CD called *Your home, your car, your money* to arm seniors and those with reading difficulties with the knowledge to become informed consumers and avoid being ripped-off,” Ms Burney said.

“The CD complements the recently revised *Seniors’ Guide* as part of Fair Trading’s arsenal in the fight against consumer rip-offs.

“Both these resources contain valuable information on a wide range of consumer topics relevant to seniors including selling, buying or renovating a home, strata schemes, buying a car, door-to-door sales, credit and debt issues, scams and other traps for the unwary when using the internet.”

Mr Michael Simpson, General Manager of Policy and Advocacy from Vision Australia, who also spoke at the event, was delighted with the result of the joint effort.

"Less than 5 per cent of print information is available in an alternative format for people who have a print disability," Mr Simpson said.

"Vision Australia's partnership with the NSW Office of Fair Trading is an example of how, by working together with our community, we can really make a difference in the lives of people with a print disability."

Your home, Your car, Your money audio CD and the *Seniors Guide* are available at www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au or by calling Fair Trading on 13 32 20.

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