

Consumers' Federation of Australia



5th May 2005

Dr John Veale,
Head of Payments Policy
Reserve Bank of Australia
GPO Box 3947
Sydney
NSW 2001

Dear Dr Veale,

Payment System Reform – Visa Debit Cards

Consumers Federation of Australia (CFA) believes that transparent and fair pricing benefit consumers, and we have welcomed recent reforms to the payment system.

However, we ask the Reserve Bank to consider any impact that its proposals may have on the issuing, or use, of Visa debit cards. While this card is only issued by a small number of financial institutions, we believe it is important that a product is available that enables a range of transactions without requiring the consumer to incur debt. Indeed, given the current level of consumer debt, we would like to see this product offered more widely.

We urge the Reserve Bank to take the viability of Visa debit cards into account.

Yours faithfully,

Carolyn Bond
Chairperson

For more information see www.consumersfederation.com or contact us at:

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