

Copies of the draft Scheme and Orders and of the relevant plans may be inspected free of charge at all reasonable hours from 25th April 1974 to 6th June 1974 at the Welsh Office, Roads Division, Graham Buildings, Newport Road, Cardiff, and at the offices of Mid Glamorgan County Council, County Hall, Cathays Park, Cardiff, Ogwr Borough Council, P.O. Box No. 4, Municipal Buildings, Queen Street, Bridgend, CF31 1LX, and at Pyle Branch Library, Pyle.

Any person may not later than 6th June 1974 object to the making of the Scheme and Orders by notice to the Secretary of State at the Welsh Office, Roads Division, Graham Buildings, Newport Road, Cardiff, CF2 1YU, quoting reference R11/228/37 and stating the grounds of objection.

L. Pritchard, An Assistant Secretary Welsh Office.
25th April 1974.

DEPUTY LIEUTENANTS COMMISSIONS

Commissions signed by Sir Robert Heatlie Scott, G.C.M.G., C.B.E., Lord Lieutenant of the County of Peebles

Colonel David George Carr Sutherland, M.C., Ferniehaugh, Dolphinton

Major John Jeremy Ballantyne, Tweedvale House, Walkerburn

Lieutenant (Honorary Captain) Edgar William Brent Grotrian Earlyvale, Eddleston

to be Deputy Lieutenants.—Dated 16th April 1974. (746)

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE

FAIR TRADING ACT 1973

Invitation to submit representations to the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee

The Director General of Fair Trading has referred to the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee for consideration the question whether the consumer trade practices described below:

- (i) adversely affect the economic interests of consumers in the United Kingdom, and
- (ii) if so, whether they do so because or partly because they have (or are likely to have) one or more of the effects specified in section 17 of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

The consumer trade practices covered by the Director's reference are:

- (i) the display of notices in shops and the provision to consumers of written communications which purport to exclude or restrict those basic rights which the consumer has against the supplier and which have been made inalienable by the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act, 1973; and
- (ii) the use of wording in documents which explains the terms on which goods are or are sought to be supplied but which fails to make clear to the consumer the existence of his basic rights against the supplier which have been made inalienable by the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act, 1973.

The reference, under Part II of the Fair Trading Act 1973, was made on 24th April 1974.

The Consumer Protection Advisory Committee are to consider the reference and to submit their conclusions in a report to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The Fair Trading Act provides that, in carrying out an investigation to which section 17 of the Act applies, the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee must take into account representations from persons or bodies who appear to the Committee to have a substantial interest in the subject-matter of the reference or who appear to them to represent substantial numbers of persons who do.

The Consumer Protection Advisory Committee hereby invite written representations from persons or bodies claiming such an interest in the reference.

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Representations for consideration of the Committee must reach the Secretaries not later than Friday, 17th May 1974, at the following address:

The Secretaries, Consumer Protection Advisory Committee, Room 512, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET. Written representations should clearly state the interest claimed in the subject-matter of the reference.

The full text of the Director General of Fair Trading's reference is being published in the *London Gazette* dated 25th April 1974 and the *Belfast* and *Edinburgh Gazettes* dated 26th April 1974.

A dossier has been prepared by the Office of Fair Trading to accompany the reference. It explains how the practices are carried on and how they are claimed to affect consumers. It also sets out the Director General of Fair Trading's proposals for changing the law so as to protect consumers with respect to the practices concerned.

Copies of the dossier are on deposit at the Office of Fair Trading in London and Edinburgh, at the Ministry of Commerce in Belfast and at Regional Offices of the Department of Industry, where they may be inspected during normal business hours.

M. B. Casey,
P. Shackelford,
Secretaries.

25th April 1974.

FAIR TRADING ACT 1973

Reference to the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee by the Director General of Fair Trading

The Director General of Fair Trading pursuant to sections 14, 17 and 19 of the Fair Trading Act 1973 hereby refers to the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee:

- (i) in respect of each of the three consumer trade practices described in paragraph 2 of the Schedule hereto (being practices which appear to him to have the relevant effects mentioned in paragraph 3 thereof),
 - (a) the question whether the practice adversely affects the economic interests of consumers in the United Kingdom; and
 - (b) if so, the question whether it does so by reason, or partly by reason, that it has, or is likely to have, one or more of the effects specified in section 17 (2) of the said Act; and
- (ii) proposals that it be recommended to the Secretary of State that she exercise her order-making powers under section 22 of the Act,
 - (a) with respect to the practice described in paragraph 2 (a) of the Schedule hereto, to make provision to the effect specified in paragraph 4 of the Schedule hereto;
 - (b) with respect to the practice described in paragraph 2 (b) thereof, to make provision to the effect specified in paragraph 5 thereof; and
 - (c) with respect to the practice described in paragraph 2 (c) thereof to make provision to the effect specified in paragraph 6 thereof.

24th April 1974.

Director General of Fair Trading.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In this Schedule:

"consumer transaction" means:

- (i) a sale of goods that is a consumer sale for the purposes of the Sale of Goods Act 1893;
- (ii) a hire purchase agreement which is a consumer agreement for the purposes of the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act 1973; or
- (iii) an agreement for the redemption of trading stamps for goods.

The Practices Referred

2. The three practices referred are:

- (a) seeking by the wording employed in notices on trade premises or trade vehicles, or in advertisements or catalogues, or in invoices or receipts or other documents furnished to consumers acquiring goods, to effect consumer transactions on terms that include terms void by virtue of section 55 (4) of the Sale of Goods Act 1893 or section 12 (3) of the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act 1973 or terms incompatible with section 4 (1) (c) of the Trading Stamps Act 1964;
- (b) furnishing to consumers entering into consumer transactions or to persons likely, as consumers, to enter