

Friday 4th May 2007

SUBURBAN SHOPPERS LEARN THEIR RIGHTS

Consumer Affairs officers will visit metropolitan shopping centres from today to inform people about their rights when shopping.

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Jennifer Rankine, said she was pleased with the response to the campaign undertaken prior to Christmas on payday lenders and keen for Consumer Affairs to have a public profile.

“It is important people have the chance to be educated about their rights when buying items, many people aren’t fully aware of their rights when purchasing products and seek help from the Office of Consumer Affairs only as a last resort.

These shopping centre visits are a proactive way to provide important information to the communities,” Ms Rankine said

Consumer Affairs staff will attend selected metropolitan shopping centres from May 2007 to provide information to shoppers on topical consumer issues. Nine centres across Adelaide will be visited between May and December 2007.

Outlets to be visited include:

- Castle Plaza (inner south) 4th May 2007
- Southgate Plaza (mid south) 25th May 2007
- Welland Plaza (inner west) 22nd June 2007
- Seaford Shopping Centre (far south)
- Port Mall (outer west)
- Northpark Shopping Centre (inner north)
- Parabanks Shopping Centre (outer north)
- Marden Shopping Centre (inner north east)
- Modbury Triangle Centre (middle north east)

The visits complement Consumer Affairs’ ongoing monitoring of trader activities.

The Office of Consumer and Business Affairs will have a stand at the Castle Plaza Shopping Centre, 992 South Road, Edwardstown, on Friday 4 May 2007, between 9am - 5pm. The stand will be located opposite Foodland. Officers will be available for advice on refunds, things to look out for when buying a second hand car or hiring a builder, or simply to check if something is a scam.

“This is a perfect opportunity for the people of Edwardstown area to access advice one on one at a location close to home. An experienced Consumer Affairs representative will be available to deal with shopper issues and provide initial advice.”

For more information about these shopping centre visits, people can contact OCBA on 8204 9516 or visit the website at www.ocba.sa.gov.au.