

**28 JULY 2021**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **RESPONSE TO VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCING REINTRODUCTION OF THE COMMERCIAL TENANCY RELIEF SCHEME (CTRS)**

The Shopping Centre Council of Australia (SCCA) is disappointed by the Victorian Government's announcement today to reintroduce the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme (CTRS).

"This is bad policy, made badly - delivered without consultation to those on the ground, with no regard for its consequences," said SCCA CEO Angus Nardi.

"Our industry has shared the pain and provided \$550 million in rental abatement in Victoria under the previous Scheme, mostly to small retailers directly impacted by decisions made by the Victorian Government".

"Yet again, our industry is being forced to act as an economic shock-absorber for Government decisions".

"Feedback today also highlights this will delay current discussions with SME retailers due to the pending Regulation adding unnecessary red tape and complexity".

"It's a slap in the face for an industry that has demonstrated good faith with the Victorian Government every step of the way.

We are dismayed at this announcement which ignores the reality of what is occurring on the ground where the Council's members are working around the clock to help businesses doing it tough."

**--ENDS --**

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