ASIC publishes expectations of retail lenders when loan repayment deferrals end

Source: <u>Australian Securities Investments Commission</u> (ASIC)

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Abstract:

ASIC has published its expectations of lenders in dealing with consumers whose six-month loan repayment deferrals will expire shortly.

This adds to ASIC's earlier expectations published on 29 April 2020 (see our previous update here).

ASIC has indicated that it expects lenders will:

- make reasonable efforts to contact consumers prior to their repayment deferral expiring, and should try to contact the consumer using a range of communication channels if necessary;
- provide consumers with information that will assist their decision-making;
- have flexible processes and empower staff to offer tailored assistance that genuinely
 addresses the needs of the consumer in circumstances where a lender determines that it
 would be appropriate to offer further assistance to a consumer; and
- have in place processes that are easy for consumers to understand and navigate.

A copy of ASIC's statement is available <u>here</u>.