

ALERT

National Treasury Workshop on Financial Sector Ombud System Reforms

The National Treasury will host a workshop for interested stakeholders to discuss reforms proposed to the financial sector ombud scheme system in South Africa. This follows the publication of a consultation policy document¹ "*A Known and Trusted Ombud System for All*" in September.

The consultation policy document addresses measures to improve the alternative dispute resolution environment for financial customers in South Africa, which is provided through the ombuds system. The document outlines reforms that will be brought about through the recently enacted Financial Sector Regulation (FSR) Act (Act 9 of 2017) and discusses considerations for future reform.

The FSR Act establishes an Ombud Council to promote awareness of and access to the ombuds system, and coordinate the activities of financial sector ombud schemes. It will ensure that financial customers have access to appropriate dispute resolution processes for complaints relating to financial products and services offered by financial institutions.

The policy document lays the basis for future research into and engagement on ombud system reforms by the National Treasury and the Ombud Council, once it is established.

Details of the workshop are as follows:

Date:	17 November 2017
Venue:	Financial Services Board, Letaba Room
	Riverwalk Office Park, Block B, 41 Matroosberg Road, Menlo Park,
	Pretoria
Time:	9.30 for 10:00am (scheduled to run until 12 pm)

To confirm your attendance, please send your details to Thabisa.Whittington@treasury.gov.za by 15 November 2017.

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¹Documents available on <u>www.treasury.gov.za/twinpeaks</u>