



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Commerce**
Consumer Protection

Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands - Indian Ocean Territories

Information on this web site may not apply in some or all cases in these territories.

The Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands are Australian external territories in the Indian Ocean north-west of Australia.

They are under the jurisdiction of the Australian Government and are known as the Indian Ocean Territories.

The laws of Western Australia are applied as Commonwealth laws in the Territories, unless the Australian Government takes action to repeal, suspend or modify the applied Western Australian laws. The Commonwealth Minister for Territories holds the delegated powers of the applied laws.

Therefore, while not a part of Western Australia, Western Australian laws – including most of those relating to Consumer Protection – have been applied as Commonwealth Law.

Consumer Protection provides functions and services under applied Western Australian laws to the Indian Ocean Territories through a Service Delivery Arrangement with the Australian Government.

What this means is that among other things, residents of these islands can use Consumer Protection's web site to gain information about their rights and obligations.

However, residents must take care because a particular Western Australian law may not apply, or, where it does, may be modified or amended. For example, The *Companies (Co-operative) Act 1943* does not apply as it has been repealed in the Indian Ocean Territories.

If you live in one of the Indian Ocean Territories and have a question regarding consumer protection or trader responsibilities or product safety, your best option is to call Consumer Protection's Call Centre on 1300 30 40 54. Be sure to mention that you are calling from either Christmas Island or the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, so that the officer you speak to is aware that his or her advice may need to be a little different for you.