

AFGC appoints Bernie Brookes AM as Chair

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The Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC) announced the appointment of Bernie Brookes AM as Chair of its Board.

Brookes brings more than four decades of executive and board-level experience in the retail and consumer goods sectors, both in Australia and internationally. He has held senior leadership roles, including CEO of Myer Australia and Edcon in South Africa, and Executive Director at Woolworths Australia. His deep understanding of retail operations, supply chain management, and consumer engagement will be invaluable in guiding the AFGC through a period of transformation and growth.

In addition to his executive career, Brookes has served on numerous boards across a diverse range of industries. He is currently Chair of Direct Group (Innovations and TVSN), and Renuon Renewable Energy and has previously sat on the Boards of First Unity, Salvation Army Australia and Funtastic. He has also served on the Advisory Board of the World Retail Congress and was the founding judge, in addition to his role as patron of the Joe Berry Memorial Award and induction into the Australian Retail Hall of Fame.

AFGC CEO Colm Maguire welcomed the appointment of the AFGC's first independent Chair, stating: "Bernie's leadership and strategic insight will be instrumental in advancing the Council's mission to support a thriving, competitive, and sustainable food and grocery sector. His experience across retail and governance makes him uniquely positioned to lead the Board at a time of significant industry evolution."

"The appointment of an independent chair to the Board of Directors marks a positive step forward in strengthening the governance of the AFGC, ensuring objective leadership, enhancing transparency, and reinforcing trust among members,

industry partners, and the broader community.â