

The Australian Government is committed to regulatory reform and simpler tax laws. It has requested the Board of Taxation (the Board) to seek ideas for tax system improvement from its stakeholders, businesses and the community.

Sounding Board is an innovative, online collaboration platform to submit, discuss and vote on ideas to improve the tax system. The *Sounding Board* community will be able to identify and prioritise the ideas.

Who can use Sounding Board?

Sounding Board is open to tax bodies and professionals, businesses and members of the public to have their say on ways to improve the tax system.

What types of ideas can be submitted to Sounding Board?

Sounding Board is designed for tax system improvement ideas, such as ways to reduce red-tape and result in compliance savings. For example, streamlining of tax registration thresholds.

It is not designed to consider new policy ideas or significant changes to the tax system. For example, changes to allowable deductions or tax rates.

Can minor care and maintenance tax suggestions be submitted?

Yes. *Sounding Board* is the place to contribute ideas for tax regulation reform, including care and maintenance ideas previously part of the ATO's Tax Issues Entry System process.

Sounding Board will be updated to notify users when a care and maintenance idea has been identified and will advise of further developments.

How long will ideas be available for discussion?

All ideas submitted will remain on the site indefinitely. An idea may be removed if it is out of scope.

What happens to submitted ideas?

The Board will work with the Australian Government, Treasury and the ATO to further explore and implement the highest priority ideas.

When an idea has been selected for implementation, the Board will continue to monitor and advise on its progress and update the *Sounding Board* community.

How long does it take for an idea to be implemented?

An idea may be referred to the Treasury (if legislative) or the ATO (if administrative) for implementation.

Depending on an idea's complexity, implementation can take from six months to several years (if a legislative change is required).

How will I know what has happened with my idea?

Ideas have a status bar indicating whether it is:

- open for discussion
- closed
- being examined by the Board
- referred for implementation, or
- implemented.

What about regulatory reform ideas previously submitted to the Board?

Regulatory reform ideas submitted prior to creation of *Sounding Board* have been reviewed by the Board. A list of outcomes will soon be made available on the Board's website.

To contribute visit taxboard.ideascale.com.

For more information about the Board visit taxboard.gov.au.