



## THE BOARD OF TAXATION

### **Consultation Plan on the Government's Consultation Paper on the Inspector General of Taxation**

1. This Consultation Plan outlines how the Board of Taxation proposes to fulfil a request by the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, Senator the Hon. Helen Coonan, for it to gather and present to her the views of business, taxpayers, the tax advising professions and the community on the proposals raised in the Government's Consultation Paper on the Inspector General of Taxation. Senator Coonan has also asked the Board to make recommendations to her on the proposals in the Consultation Paper.
2. You can obtain a copy of Senator Coonan's media release and the Government's Consultation Paper from [www.treasury.gov.au](http://www.treasury.gov.au) or [www.taxboard.gov.au](http://www.taxboard.gov.au), or by telephoning (02) 6263 4366.

#### *Consultation Processes*

3. Ms Alison McClelland, a member of the Board of Taxation, will have general oversight of the Board's consultations on the Consultation Paper.
4. The Board will issue a media release summarising the consultation arrangements proposed in this Plan, inviting members of the public to participate in its consultations, and advising that a copy of this Consultation Plan may be obtained from [www.taxboard.gov.au](http://www.taxboard.gov.au), by email from [inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au](mailto:inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au), or by telephoning Ms Jodi Wood on (02) 6263 4366.
5. The Board will also:
  - (a) publicise the consultations through its web site;
  - (b) call for comments on the Consultation Paper in advertisements placed in a daily newspaper circulating throughout each State and Territory;
  - (c) write to a number of individuals and organisations who have expressed an interest in the proposal, or whom the Board considers may have an interest in the proposal, to advise them that the Consultation Paper is available for public comment;
  - (d) invite the Ombudsman and the Australian National Audit Office to comment on the Consultation Paper (Ms McClelland will also invite the Ombudsman and the Australian National Audit Office to meet with her to discuss the Consultation Paper.);

- (e) ask the Australian Taxation Office if Ms McClelland, or a member of the Board's Secretariat, may seek comments on the Consultations Paper from participants in its industry liaison groups that meet during the consultation period; and
- (f) ask the Australian Taxation Office to publicise the consultations through its networks with tax practitioners.
6. Comments on the Consultation Paper may be sent to the Board by 25 June 2002 to:
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| <a href="mailto:Inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au">Inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au</a> | or | The Inspector General Project<br>The Board of Taxation<br>c/- the Treasury<br>Langton Crescent<br>PARKES ACT 2600 |
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7. Senator Coonan has asked the Board to report to her by 19 July 2002.
8. The Board will make a copy of every submission available on its web site, [www.taxboard.gov.au](http://www.taxboard.gov.au), unless the submission is confidential. The public release of submissions will also be governed by the *Freedom of Information Act 1974*.
9. To facilitate the preparation of submissions, the Board will invite representative stakeholders, groups or organisations to meetings early in the consultation period to discuss the Consultation Paper. It will invite the Treasury Department to participate in the meetings, to provide any further information stakeholders may require to better inform themselves on the issues raised by the Consultation Paper. Expressions of interest in participating in these consultations should be made to [inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au](mailto:inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au) or to Ms Jodi Wood on (02) 6263 4366. The location and timing of the meetings will be determined in the light of interest expressed.
10. The Board may also hold a further round of consultations shortly after 25 June 2002, the closing date for submissions, to assist it in framing its own recommendations and in synthesising the comments made on the Consultation Paper. Participants in these consultations would principally be drawn from those who have given the Board substantive comments on the Consultation Paper.
11. The Board's report to Senator Coonan will include its own recommendations on the Consultation Paper, a synthesis of comments it receives on the Consultation Paper, and a copy of those comments. The Board notes that it has an interest in the proposal to establish an Inspector-General of Taxation given the possible impact of the proposal on the Board's role. The report will identify those issues separately.
12. For further information about this Consultation Plan, contact Mr Robert Patch: telephone (02) 6263 4339, or by email to [inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au](mailto:inspectorgeneral@taxboard.gov.au).