

From: Greg Travers
Sent: Tuesday, 26 March 2002 10:10
To: 'taxboard@treasury.gov.au'
Subject: tax board website

Dear Sirs,

I am sending this short message in relation to the consultation process for the TVM. I read with interest on page 1 of "The Tax Agent" publication the following comment from Dick Warburton:

"On 6 March 2002 the Board will release legislative and administrative material to initiate an intensive consultation period before it makes recommendations to the Government on the feasibility of proceeding with the proposed reform. Public submissions are being called for by end April, and particularly submissions from tax agents will be welcomed."

I would then refer you to the publication "Key Dates for Tax Practitioners" that accompanied The Tax Agent publication, in particular the two and a half pages of key dates that fall in March and April. During this period there are two major income tax return deadlines, a BAS lodgement, FBT returns to prepare and superannation reporting.

Add to this the release of the consolidations material which needs to be acted on prior to 1 July 2002 and you can see that this is a particularly hectic period for tax agents. It is unrealistic to expect them to participate in TVM consultation when they are flat out meeting client commitments.

If the Board is genuinely interested in obtaining the views of tax agents a longer consultation period should be provided and/or the consultation period should not conflict with major tax deadlines.

I trust this will be taken into account in future.

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