



Prepared by Maria Benardis

Bag Issues Log Item 06-001: BAG minutes and web-site

Log Item sent: 13/11/2006

At present the ATO on its web-site has a page for the Bookkeeper Industry Advisory Group. The page provides a brief outline and the purpose for the committee only. There are no minutes or issues log item responses published.

Can the ATO please outline when it proposes to update the web-site to provide this information i.e. minutes and issues log items raised? AAPB would also like to recommend that the ATO give consideration to updating the web-page to reflect the new charter and name.

AAPB members have also expressed concerns in relation to the limited and lack of information on the ATO web-site about this committee and its achievements. Limited information can be located however it is "hidden" in the ATO's Tax Practitioner Forum (ATPF) minutes.

AAPB fully supports Michael D'Ascenzo's, Commissioner of Taxation message of having open and transparent consultation and communication. This message has being communicated in many of his speeches and tax practitioner meetings.

We therefore believe that AAPB's request is reasonable and fits within the spirit of the Commissioner's comments.

It is also current ATO practice for a summary of the BAG meeting to be forwarded to the ATPF committee. *AAPB would like to recommend that the BAG committee members be given an opportunity to view the summary before it goes to ATPF committee. Can the ATO please comment?*

AAPB believes that this would also provide an opportunity for the professional associations on the BAG committee to include any issues arising in relation to the bookkeeping industry to be raised at the ATPF and to seek tax practitioner input.

Disclaimer

This document provides general information current at the time of writing. It is not intended that the information provide advice and should not be relied on as such. Professional advice should be sought prior to actions on any of the information contained herein.

November 2006