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Mr Andrew Ross  
Vice President  
Property Sales Association of Queensland  
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SPRINGWOOD QLD 4127

Department of  
Equity and Fair Trading

Office of  
Fair Trading

Dear Sir/Madam

**APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES UNDER THE AUCTIONEERS AND AGENTS ACT 1971**

The *Property Agents and Motor Dealers Act 2000* (PAMD), which will replace the above referenced Act, is proposed to come into effect on 1 July 2001. Both Acts deal with among other things, licensing of real estate agents (including restricted letting agents), motor dealers, commercial agents, auctioneers and pastoral houses. PAMD also has a new category of licence for property developers.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the proposed means of dealing with applications received under the *Auctioneers and Agents Act 1971* up to the expected date of effect of the replacement Act. We respectfully ask that you pass on this information to any of your customers, members of your organisation or any associates who may have an interest in this matter.

The PAMD has a number of new requirements in terms of qualifications required for licences and registrations. The most significant changes concern eligibility, specifically educational qualifications with respect to licence applications for restricted letting agent, real estate agent (shopping centre manager), auctioneer, trainee auctioneer, real estate salesperson and property developer salesperson. By imposing educational qualifications on persons intending to enter the respective industries, it is anticipated that the overall standard of knowledge and consequently service delivery within the market will be enhanced. The grant of a licence for each of these licence types will depend on the applicant gaining educational qualifications where at present none are required.

The process from the receipt of an application to its determination involves the examination of applications for compliance with the legislation, the conduct of inquiries, the writing of correspondence, awaiting replies and the scheduling of Auctioneers and Agents Committee meetings. In view of the lead time involved for this process, it is considered most unlikely that applications received after 30 April 2001 will be determined prior to the introduction of the new Act.

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In attempting to satisfy the expectations of applicants and in an effort to demonstrate its willingness to oblige, the Office of Fair Trading, in conjunction with the Auctioneers and Agents Committee, has committed to assessing all applications received up to and including 30 April 2001 under the current Act.

However, where a decision on an application received before 30 April 2001 has been deferred for further information and this results in the matter only being available for consideration after 30 June 2001, the application will be determined under the provisions of the new Act.

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated. Any queries on the above arrangements may be directed to myself.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Medwin".

Paul Medwin  
Principal Licensing Officer