



Queensland
Government

Hon. Merri Rose MP
Member for Currumbin

Minister for Tourism and Racing and
Minister for Fair Trading

26 JUL 2001

Mr Barry Gannon
State Secretary
Property Sales Association of Queensland
P O Box 863
SPRINGWOOD QLD 4127

Dear Mr Gannon

I refer to your letter of 21 June 2001 regarding the ability of salespersons to commence duties upon the lodgement of an application for registration under the *Property Agents and Motor Dealers Act 2000* ("the PAMD Act").

The time taken to consider an application for a salesperson's certificate has been protracted over the past few months as a result of a number of factors.

The Office of Fair Trading has undertaken a proactive real estate agency enforcement program that has resulted in a significant influx of applications by salespersons. In addition, there has been a last minute rush by applicants for licences and certificates before the PAMD Act replaced the *Auctioneers and Agents Act 1971*. While the Auctioneers and Agents Committee, worked hard on clearing a range of matters prior to its expiration, the part-time nature of the Committee limited its capacity to deal with the large volume of new applications.

The PAMD Act now places the responsibility for considering applications with the Chief Executive of the Department of Tourism, Racing and Fair Trading. While the Office of Fair Trading is working overtime to deal with the backlog of applications on hand, as the new Act settles in, I expect that there will be a noticeable improvement in the turnaround time for consideration of applications.

The intention of the PAMD Act is to ensure that salespersons meet standards of eligibility and suitability before they commence duties in the real estate industry. While I appreciate your interest in this matter, I do not believe that it is appropriate at this stage to amend the Act to allow for provisional certificates as you have suggested. However, after this Act has been in operation for 12 months, a review will be undertaken, at which time this proposal could be considered in further detail.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Hon. Merri-Rose MP
Minister for Tourism and Racing and
Minister for Fair Trading

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