



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA

Government response to the consultation on the Real Estate Agents, Property Brokers and Property Consultants Act

22nd April 2020

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Executive Summary

Introduction and overview

1. A brief introduction about the subject.

The reason behind this public consultation is to publish an act to make provision for the licensing of real estate agents, property brokers and property consultants.

2. The public consultation date.
Include the objective and purpose of the public consultation.

On 16 March 2020, the Government published a consultation paper setting out the objects and reasons of this Bill to streamline persons acting as intermediaries in the process of negotiating and arranging transactions involving the acquiring or disposing or leasing of land. Essentially, this shall entail the provision of a regulatory framework allowing for the licensing of real estate Agents, branch managers and property consultants working for real estate agents as well as property brokers.

3. This consultation sought views on:
 - As a consumer, do you think it is advisable to have estate agents regulated? If yes, why?
 - As an estate agent, which are the major challenges you encounter?

Responses to the consultation and process used to seek stakeholder views

This document is the Government Response to this consultation and sets out the Government's decisions on these matters.

4. The closing date of the public consultation. Which methods were used to receive the feedback. The total amount of responses. From whom you received the feedback.

The consultation closed on 26 March 2020. The consultation document and the reply form were available online and responses were accepted electronically and on paper. In total, there were 17 responses. These were received from across the industry. Responses were also received from outside the industry including local authorities, NGOs and individuals.

5. Include (if any) meetings with stakeholders and list who the stakeholders were.

Eg: A number of meetings with stakeholders, including the private sector, were also held during the consultation period. These meetings have also informed our thinking and final decision.

Summary of responses and decisions

The following is a summary of the consultation responses received. We would like to thank all those who took the time to respond to the consultation and participate in stakeholder meetings around the consultation exercise.

6. Statistics.

- Total feedback received: 17
- Total feedback received by individuals: 6
- Total feedback received by organisations: 11
- Total feedback received through email: 17
- Total feedback received through online form: 0
- Total feedback received by post: 0

7. Summary of feedback received.

The majority of respondents, mostly from the industry sector, agreed to the Government's drafted bill. Some of the respondents disagreed with the short consultation period.

8. Your assessment and the Government's decision (list the Government's decisions).

Having reviewed all comments submitted we took in consideration the comments which reflect the Government's position regarding this law. These are reflected in the new draft bill which shall be presented to the Parliament.

Implementation

9. The Government will issue the bill around June 2020 subject to Parliamentary approval.

Contact Details

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact: publicconsultations.mtip@gov.mt