NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

8 October 2025

Withdrawal of General Article “Information Sharing with Approved Credit Reporting Agencies”

The Commissioner is reviewing his approach to the credit reporting legislation in the Tax Administration Act 1994 to give full effect to Parliament’s purpose for the credit reporting rules. As part of this, the Commissioner has reconsidered aspects of the General Article “Information Sharing with Approved Credit Reporting Agencies” (published 1 May 2017) and commentary on the credit reporting legislation in *Tax Information Bulletin* item “New legislation: Taxation (Business Tax, Exchange of Information, and Remedial Matters) Act 2017” (Vol 29, No 4, May 2017 at 62-66).

The General Article and the *Tax Information Bulletin* include comments about when the Commissioner will have made “reasonable efforts” to recover tax debt from a taxpayer. The Commissioner no longer considers these comments accurately reflect Parliament’s purpose for the “reasonable efforts” requirement in the legislation. The Commissioner considers that where a taxpayer (who has been advised that they owe debt) does not engage with Inland Revenue, Inland Revenue may still have made reasonable efforts to recover the tax debt. Direct engagement with the taxpayer is not necessarily required for the Commissioner to have made reasonable efforts to recover the tax debt.

The Commissioner has also reviewed the statement in the *Tax Information Bulletin* about formal notification (of the Commissioner’s intent to disclose debt information) being served on all the company’s directors. This does not reflect the legislative requirement for formal notification in the Tax Administration Act 1994. The legislation requires formal notification to the company itself, not to every director.

In light of the above, the General Article is withdrawn and the aspects of the *Tax Information Bulletin* discussed above should not be relied on as current guidance.

Currently, the only Credit Reporting Agency approved by the Commissioner is Centrix.

Please see section 18H and clause 33, part C of schedule 7 of the Tax Administration Act 1994 for the requirements that must be satisfied before the Commissioner may disclose information to an approved credit reporting agency. Please use myIR or contact Inland Revenue if you have tax debt and you would like to discuss repayment or have concerns about the possibility of Inland Revenue credit reporting your tax debt.