



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 239

26 April 1974

BY-LAW POLICY

The Prime Minister announced today that following discussions with a wide range of industries and industry associations, the Government had decided to publish a Green Paper on by-law policy under which goods enter Australia free of duty where local products are not suitably equivalent or reasonably available. The Green Paper would draw together the options available to the community in this important area of policy.

The Prime Minister said that he welcomed the co-operation which had been so readily given by industry to the work of the interdepartmental group, chaired by his Department, which is examining the matter. The Government has in mind that the Green Paper will provide a basis for further industry comment and community discussion.

The Prime Minister mentioned that by-law entry accounts for about 25 per cent of all imports. The implications of any change in the system are therefore very far-reaching.

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