



THE HON JIM CHALMERS MP
TREASURER

Ref: MS26-000093
Wednesday 28 January 2026

Mr. Joseph Longo
Chair
Australian Securities and Investments Commission

Joseph.longo@asic.gov.au

Dear Mr Longo

As you are aware, there have been longstanding concerns about the availability of directors' personal information on ASIC business registers.

While the Government and ASIC have been working on a permanent solution, I consider that more immediate interim steps are required to address security concerns raised by agencies and some stakeholders. Specifically, I would support ASIC taking action within its existing powers to remove residential addresses from the company search extracts for the general public as soon as possible. This would remove addresses from the most widely available access point.

The Government also expects wholesale access providers and commercial users of registry information to take steps to ensure that directors' residential information is restricted to genuine use cases. I would welcome ASIC working with affected parties to find ways to deliver this. ASIC should also consider whether other measures are needed to address privacy and security risks associated with access to registry information.

This approach is consistent with advice provided to me by the national security community. I recently met with the Director-General of ASIO in relation to this matter and he has advised that all reasonable steps be considered and taken to limit open access to personal information, such as residential address information held on the ASIC register. I understand you have also received this advice.

The Government is also seeking states' agreement to introduce legislation that would give ASIC more powers to amend information on the registry where there is a privacy concern. Subject to the states' agreement, we intend to introduce this measure early in the Autumn parliamentary sittings.

As you are aware, the Government is consulting on draft legislation to build a permanent solution from 1 July 2027. We are considering options to allow for the early commencement of relevant provisions in the *Treasury Laws Amendment (Business Registries Stabilisation and Uplift) Bill 2025* in recognition of exacerbated concerns about the availability of personal information on registers.

Thank you to you and your staff for the work on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Chalmers', followed by a long horizontal line.

The Hon Jim Chalmers MP