



**ASIC**  
Australian Securities &  
Investments Commission

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

## Commission meeting number 1048

29 January 2026

### Removal of directors' residential address from the public register

What is the key issue(s) for decision?	To remove directors' residential addresses from extracts from the company register available from ASIC's website.
When is a decision needed by?	30 January 2026
Has the matter previously been considered by this or another internal forum?	Commission meeting 1046
Is there a communications plan that has been prepared in consultation with Communications & Corporate Affairs?	Yes – Communications & Corporate Affairs is preparing an issues management plan including overarching messages and Q&A. The Registry Operations team is developing call centre and customer-facing materials aligned to overarching messages.
What consultation has been undertaken? Were there any materially different views?	External engagement to explore use cases of residential addresses with § 47C, § 47E(d) DD&T, RegistryConnect, Legal Services

### Draft Resolution

1. That the Commission:

- 1.1 **APPROVE** the removal of residential address information, and where previously notified, the alternative address information, for officeholders from organisational and person extracts from the Company Register publicly available from the ASIC website as an immediate interim measure pending a permanent solution under the RegistryConnect program to address longstanding concerns about the availability of directors' personal information on the ASIC business registers.

1.2 **NOTE THAT:**

- 1.3 This measure is designed to mitigate the digital proliferation of residential address information s 47C, s 47E(d)

s 47C, s 47E(d)

- 1.9 That ASIC has undertaken very limited and targeted engagement on the use cases for residential address, noting Treasury consultation on the Registry Stabilisation and Uplift exposure draft legislation closes 10 February 2026.

## Background

2. During January, ASIC has been providing information and advice to Treasury in relation to options to restrict the disclosure of director residential address information from the company register. The Commission noted this work at Commission Meeting 1046.

s 47C, s 47E(d)

4. On 28 January 2026, the Treasurer wrote to ASIC Chair, Joe Longo expressing support for ASIC to take immediate interim steps to address security concerns

powers to remove residential addresses from the company search extracts for the general public as soon as possible. In addition, the Treasurer noted that the Government is seeking the agreement of the States to introduce legislation early in the Autumn parliamentary sittings to give ASIC powers to amend the registers where there is a privacy concern.

5. Officeholder residential addresses would continue to be available for inspection as a copy of a document for a fee. **s 47C, s 47E(d)**

[REDACTED]

6. Government agencies will not be impacted and will continue to receive officeholder residential addresses for approved use cases governed under existing MoU data and information sharing arrangements.
7. Registered liquidators appointed to the administration of companies will continue to have access to company information including officeholder residential addresses, as will ASIC registered agents and company auditors authorised by the company to access information and interact with ASIC.
8. Journalists, registered and approved by ASIC as authorised users of the ASIC journalist portal will not be impacted.

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

### Key issues and risks

10. The following risks and issues arising from such a significant change as partial removal of access to officeholder residential address information without consultation are balanced against the clear heightened risk reflected in stakeholder, government and intelligence community position relating to continued access to officeholder residential address information.

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

s 47C, s 47E(d)

s 47C, s 47E(d)

### Communications approach

s 47C, s 47E(d)

25. Current draft key messages (s 47C, s 47E(d))

25.1 There have been longstanding concerns about the availability of directors' personal information on ASIC business registers.

25.2 While the Government and ASIC have been working on a permanent solution, interim immediate steps are being taken to address long-standing concerns about access to personal information, identity theft, and cyber security.

25.3 As a result, ASIC is removing officeholder addresses from company extracts from the ASIC website, effective immediately.

25.4 By taking this step, we are balancing the need to protect people's personal information while maintaining transparent registers.

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

25.6 This action does not remove residential address information entirely, but it removes addresses from the most widely available access point.

25.7 We are consulting with information brokers to explain how this change will impact them and their customers.

25.8 Through RegistryConnect, ASIC will implement stronger methods to validate and authenticate users without exposing private details, supporting the accuracy of business information, aiding regulatory activity, and providing greater assurance to the public.

25.9 Government departments and law enforcement agencies who rely on this information will continue to be able to access it through direct channels. There are no changes to the services these users consume.

26. Extensive internal FAQs and draft assets are being developed to address the key questions by stakeholder groups in conjunction with the Registry Ops.

## Next steps

27. If Commission makes this decision, we will:

27.1 Implement removal of residential address information for directors from the ASIC online Company Extract products at an agreed date, **s 47C, s 47E(d)**

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

27.2 Engage with information brokers, wholesale access providers and commercial users of registry information **s 47C, s 47E(d)**

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

**s 47C, s 47E(d)**

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### Attachment (s)

- (A) Director residential address removal fact sheet
- (B) Stakeholder engagement - use cases for residential addresses
- (C) Draft ASIC Newsroom news item

# Appendix A – Director Residential Address Suppression Fact Sheet

## The Legislation

1. The Corporations Act provides that any person has a right to inspect and obtain a copy of a document lodged with ASIC ([s1274\(2\)](#) of the Corporations Act) unless the document is explicitly exempted ([s.1274\(2\) \(a\)](#) of the Corporations Act).
2. This includes documents applications for registration of an Australian company ([s117\(2\)](#) of the Corporations Act) and notice of the appointment, change of details or cessation of a director of an Australian company ([205B\(1\), \(2\) or \(4\)](#) of the Corporations Act).
3. Those applications and notices are required to include the usual residential address of a director of an Australian company unless the director has demonstrated their entitlement to use an alternative address ([s205D\(1\) and \(2\)](#) of the Corporations Act).
4. ASIC may make available to a person prescribed information (in the form of a document or otherwise) that ASIC has obtained from a prescribed register by using a data processor ([s1274A\(4\)](#) of the Corporations Act). The register of companies is a prescribed register ([regulation 9.1.01\(a\)](#) of the Corporations Regulations). Information about the company's officers is prescribed information in relation to that register ([regulation 9.1.02\(a\)\(vi\)](#) of the Corporations Regulations).
5. ASIC relies on [s1274A\(4\)](#) of the Corporations Act and [regulation 9.1.01\(a\)](#) of the Corporations Regulations to produce company extracts that include the usual residential address of directors (except where an alternative address is substituted).
6. Company extracts are admissible as prima facie evidence of the matters stated in the extract, without the need for any certificate or signature ([s1274B](#) of the Corporations Act).
7. In performing its functions and exercising its powers, ASIC must strive to (among other things) "receive, process and store, efficiently and quickly, the information given to ASIC under the laws that confer functions and powers on it" and "ensure that information is available as soon as practicable for access by the public" ([s1\(2\)\(e\) and \(f\)](#) of the ASIC Act).
8. ASIC in part fulfills this obligation by allowing an online search of the registry and surfacing a company extract (for a fee) containing information from documents lodged with ASIC including Director detail including residential address.
9. Anyone can also access the underlying source documents/forms (for an additional fee).
10. The legislation does not stipulate the way in which ASIC makes information available and accordingly there is no legislative requirement to provide and extract or particular content within that extract.
11. The provision of search and extract is though the way in which ASIC fulfils its obligation to make information available.

## The director address suppression process

12. The Corporations Act provides for the substitution of an alternative address to the residential address ([s205D \(2\)](#) of the Corporations Act) in circumstances where: a) the person is a [silent electors on the Australian Electoral Commission](#) or b) their name is not

on an electoral roll and ASIC determines their personal safety, or the personal safety of members of their family is at risk. Our understanding from engagement with the AEC in late 2024 is becoming a silent elector is not a significant impediment.

13. Just over 4k individuals with a suppressed residential address across ~20k companies (~3.5 million total companies registered) on the ASIC company register. Of these, the majority (93%) are proprietary companies, the remainder (~1500) are public companies (half of which related to public companies limited by guarantee – charities, incorporated community organisations).
14. ASIC has invested in supporting requests for address suppression and operates a low friction, pragmatic and fast process under the current legislative framework and has made this clear on its website.
  - 27.1 Applications have increased 50% from 525 in 2024 to 788 in 2025.
  - 27.2 We have established electronic and phone processes to minimise burden and support accessibility and timeliness.
  - 27.3 Average time for actioning requests has gone from 8 business days to 1 business day.
  - 27.4 Time to remove public access to underlying documents on an interim basis pending redaction has moved from multiple weeks to 1 business day.
  - 27.5 Redacting is manual and time consuming. Where we receive a request for public access, we prioritise redaction. As noted above, ASIC does not have an express power to redact the documents and relies on its incidental powers where doing so “is necessary for or in connection with, or reasonably incidental to, the performance of its functions” under the Corporations Act (s11(4) of the ASIC Act) (e.g. in circumstances where we are considering an application by a person for a suppressed residential address under s 205D).
  - 27.6 We act urgently on an interim basis where risk of harm or circumstances heightened as reflected over new year instances.

s 47C, s 47E(d)

## Appendix B – Stakeholder engagement - cases for residential addresses

s 47C, s 47E(d)



s 47C, s 47E(d)



## Appendix C – Draft ASIC Newsroom item

### ASIC updates information available in registry extracts

Current and historical ASIC extracts will no longer contain the residential addresses of company officeholders.

ASIC has made this change in response to privacy and safety concerns including access to personal information, identity theft and cyber security.

This decision balances the need to protect people's personal information while maintaining transparent registers.

Individuals and organisations legally entitled to residential address details, including law enforcement agencies, government departments, journalists and entities that require it for regulatory compliance purposes, will still have access to this information.

ASIC will consult with information brokers and other registry intermediaries to help them understand how this change affects them.

More information is available at [address.enquiries@asic.gov.au](mailto:address.enquiries@asic.gov.au).

#### Background

The 2025-26 Federal Budget included a significant funding commitment to ASIC's RegistryConnect program, which will stabilise and uplift ASIC's registers. The program will strengthen the quality and integrity of registry data, including through the future linking of director IDs to the companies register. This will further prevent the use of fraudulent identities and, over time, improve the traceability of director relationships with companies, giving the public and stakeholders greater certainty about who they are dealing with when engaging with directors and corporate entities.

A Treasury consultation on draft laws to improve Australia's business registers is open until 10 February 2026. ASIC will engage closely with Treasury on any future work to improve ASIC's registers.