

Tuesday 23 December 2025

The Hon Dr Daniel Mulino MP  
Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Via email: [Daniel.Mulino@aph.gov.au](mailto:Daniel.Mulino@aph.gov.au)

Copy: The Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Cyber Security  
The Hon Jim Chalmers MP, Treasurer

Dear Minister,

**Urgent and ongoing safety and privacy concerns with the public disclosure of millions of Australian directors' personal information on the ASIC companies register**

I refer to my letter to you dated 15 April 2025, and the AICD's continued engagement with Treasury.

The Australian Institute of Company Directors (**AICD**) continues to highlight serious and ongoing concerns about the public availability of the personal information of directors (residential address, full name and date of birth) on the ASIC-administered companies register (**Companies Register**). I write to call for urgent Government attention to this matter and to propose an interim solution.

The urgency has never been greater to address these privacy and security risks to individuals serving or volunteering on the boards of corporate and community organisations, given heightened physical safety threats faced by segments of the Australian community.

Currently the personal information of directors and officers, including full residential addresses, is available to any member of the public (for a negligible fee) via the Companies Register. This means that the home address, date of birth and full name of directors and officers of entities incorporated under the Corporations Act, including large and small companies and charities and not-for-profits in the community incorporated as companies limited by guarantee, are readily available online.

As you are aware, we have written to senior members of the Government and raised this issue as a priority in Treasury consultations over recent years, calling for action to protect the privacy and security of directors and officers. Australia is an outlier amongst comparable jurisdictions in making the personal information of directors and officers so broadly available.

The status quo exposes directors and officers to unacceptable risks and is at odds with the Government's focus on protecting individual personal information and cyber security resilience in the community.

As you know, Treasury is currently consulting on proposals to link directors' Director ID to information on the Register. The AICD has engaged extensively with Treasury and the ATO throughout the Modernising Business Registers (**MBR**) process and more recently, through ASIC's Registry Business Advisory Group (**RBAG**). We recognise the constructive engagement with Treasury on the AICD's concerns about personal information access, and are supportive of the broader Companies Register reforms.

While it is encouraging that the Treasury paper proposes that once the Director ID is linked to the Register, sensitive director personal information, including home addresses and dates of birth, should be removed from public access, we remain very concerned that this is not proposed to occur until July 2027.

We consider this an unacceptable delay given the current arrangements expose directors and officers to potential privacy, personal safety, and cyber and identity-theft risks. These are harms that far outweigh the public benefit of availability of personal details on a public register and must be taken seriously.

We are not aware of any other profession in Australia where personal information such as a residential address and date of birth is made publicly available. We note that many Australians who serve or volunteer on corporate and community organisations may not be aware that their personal details, including their residential address, are publicly available. As noted, Australia's approach to general access to sensitive personal information is also out of step with jurisdictions such as the UK, Canada, New Zealand and US (a detailed jurisdictional comparison has been shared previously with Treasury).

The AICD appreciates the practical, technical difficulties in linking two government systems administered by different agencies (Director ID, with the ATO, and the Companies Register, with ASIC) and the work underway across Government to progress this. However, we urge the taking of immediate steps to protect director and officer details while these reforms progress.

Although we would prefer more urgent, comprehensive action to fast-track the removal of personal information access, **a practical interim solution would be to immediately allow for the provision of a service address in lieu of a director or officer's residential address on the Companies Register.** This would require a simple, urgent amending Bill, and would not undermine the planned Director ID linkage process and establishment of tiered access to personal details. It would simply bring forward a mechanism that is already included in the Exposure Draft of the Treasury Laws Amendment (Business Registries Stabilisation and Uplift) Bill 2025.

For clarity, we support Treasury's reform proposal for government agencies and select authenticated users, such as liquidators, financial institutions and external administrators, to have continued access to director personal information for legitimate purposes. The real and current risk lies with anyone with internet access being able to obtain personal information regarding three million directors.

We look forward to hearing back from you. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at [s 22 @aicd.com.au](mailto:s 22 @aicd.com.au), or on mobile [s 22](tel:s 22), or [s 22](tel:s 22) Head of Policy, on [s 22 @aicd.com.au](mailto:s 22 @aicd.com.au) or on mobile [s 22](tel:s 22).

Yours faithfully,

**s 22**

Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer