

10 September 2021

Ian Sheldon  
Director, Internet Governance  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications  
2 Phillip Law St  
Canberra, ACT 2601

**Subject: Revised Terms of Endorsement for the .au Domain Administration**

Dear Mr Sheldon

The .au Domain Administration (auDA) appreciates the Department's consultative approach to revising auDA's Terms of Endorsement, and we welcome the opportunity to provide input.

auDA recognises that our unique role as the steward of an important part of Australia's critical infrastructure comes with a significant responsibility to the Australian community, and we reaffirm our commitment to administering the .au domain for the benefit of all Australians and in accordance with Australian laws.

We consider the proposed new Terms of Endorsement strike the right balance between multi-stakeholder Internet governance and appropriate government oversight of a critical asset that underpins the digital economy.

Since the government's 2017-18 review of auDA, the organisation has undertaken significant reforms to its management and governance framework. We were pleased to receive Minister Fletcher's acknowledgment in May 2020 that the government is satisfied auDA has successfully implemented the reforms recommended in the review. Furthermore, since this time, we have continued to:

- undertake initiatives to enhance our accountability, transparency, to ensure the stability and resilience of the .au domain, including reviewing our licensing rules, developing a compliance posture, and announcing a new Licensing Rule Review Panel
- deepen our engagement with stakeholders, including the industry, auDA members, academia and government and the broader community, including



an increased number of stakeholder briefings, auDA-hosted events and industry partnerships.

We recently released our [2021-2025 Proposed Strategy](#), that sets out our forward plan for administering a trusted .au for the benefit of all Australians. We will achieve this through the delivery of strategic projects, including those that:

- drive down DNS abuse and enhance the security and integrity of .au
- improve the utility of the .au by increasing choice in domain names for users
- promote multi-stakeholder Internet governance both nationally and internationally
- promote leading governance such as the adoption of integrated reporting.

We welcome the Australian Government's shared and ongoing commitment to multi-stakeholder Internet governance, and we look forward to continuing to collaborate with the Department, other government agencies, and non-government stakeholders to champion an open, free, secure, and global Internet.

Yours sincerely

**Rosemary Sinclair AM**  
**Chief Executive Officer**