



This White Paper is targeted at small to medium sized businesses operating within Australia. It is intended to increase knowledge and awareness of Australia's Privacy Principles and their potential impact on your business, while providing some sensible starting points for businesses working towards ensuring they are compliant with the Australian Privacy Principles.

Background	3
What organisations are affected by APPs.	3
What are the responsibilities of an APP Entity?	4
APPs by the Numbers	4
APP 1 - Open and transparent management of personal information	4
APP 2 – Anonymity and pseudonymity	5
APP 3 – Collection of solicited personal information.	6
APP 4 – Dealing with unsolicited personal information.	8
APP 5 – Notification of the collection of personal information	9
APP 6 – Use or disclosure of personal information.	10
APP 7 – Direct marketing.	12
APP 8 – Cross-border disclosure of personal information.	13
APP 9 – Adoption, use or disclosure of government-related identifiers.	14
APP 10 – Quality of personal information.	15
APP 11 – Security of personal information.	17
APP 12 – Access to personal information.	18
APP 13 – Correction of personal information.	19
Conclusion	20



Background

The Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) were created to provide a framework that governs the handling of personal information by organisations that come under the jurisdiction of the Australian Privacy Principles.

These principles are structured to ensure that personal information is managed in a manner that respects individual privacy while allowing for the necessary use and disclosure of that information in certain contexts.

The development of APPs was done so to strike a balance between protecting individual privacy and allowing APP impacted organisations to conduct their activities effectively, ensuring that personal information is handled in a manner that is respectful of individual privacy rights and expectations.

What organisations are affected by APPs.

Entities or organisations that must comply with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) are referred to as "APP entities". The Privacy Act 1988 outlines the obligations of these entities concerning the handling of personal information.

So, what is included in the definition of "APP entities"?

An APP entity, as described within the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs), is any organization or agency that is required to comply with these principles under the Australian Privacy Act 1988. The APPs provide a framework for how personal information should be managed, and they apply to both public and private sector organizations.

APP Entities:

Public Sector Agencies: These include government departments and agencies at the federal level that are bound by the APPs. State government agencies might also be covered under certain circumstances or in specific jurisdictions that have adopted similar privacy principles.

Private Sector Organizations: <u>Most</u> businesses and non-government organizations (NGOs) are considered APP entities if they have an <u>annual turnover</u> of more than \$3 million AUD, with some exceptions. Smaller businesses may also be APP entities if they provide health services, trade in personal information, operate a residential tenancy database, or are contracted service providers for a Commonwealth contract, among other criteria.



The definition of *APP Entities* appears to be intentionally broad to capture a wide gamut of the Australian Business landscape.

What are the responsibilities of an APP Entity?

APP entities are responsible for managing personal information in an open and transparent way, ensuring the privacy of individuals' information throughout its lifecycle. This includes obligations related to the collection, storage, use, disclosure, security, and disposal of personal information.

APP entities are also required to have a privacy policy that clearly outlines how they manage personal information. This policy must be accessible and include information about the types of personal information the entity collects, how it is collected and held, the purposes for its collection, use, and disclosure, and how individuals can access and correct their information or make a complaint.

The detailed responsibilities and obligations of APP entities are outlined across the 13 Australian Privacy Principles, which cover various aspects of personal information management from its collection and processing to security and access rights. We cover these below.

APPs by the Numbers

There are 13 Australian Privacy Principles included in the Australian Privacy Act 1988. We will address each APP in turn.

APP 1 - Open and transparent management of personal information

Australian Privacy Principle 1 (APP 1) is focused on the open and transparent management of personal information. Here are the key details:

Objective

The main goal of APP 1 is to ensure that APP entities manage personal information openly and transparently.

Compliance Requirements

APP entities must take reasonable steps to implement practices, procedures, and systems for their functions or activities that:



- Ensure compliance with the Australian Privacy Principles and any applicable registered APP code.
- Enable the entity to handle inquiries or complaints about its compliance with these principles or codes.

APP Privacy Policy

APP entities are required to have a clear and current APP privacy policy regarding the management of personal information.

The privacy policy must include:

- Types of personal information collected and held.
- Methods of collection and storage of personal information.
- Purposes for collecting, holding, using, and disclosing personal information.
- How individuals can access their personal information held by the entity and request corrections.
- The process for individuals to lodge complaints about breaches of the APPs or a registered APP code, and how the entity will handle these complaints.
- Whether the entity is likely to disclose personal information to overseas recipients, and if so, the countries where these recipients may be located, if practicable.

Availability of the APP Privacy Policy

APP entities must ensure their APP privacy policy is:

- Available free of charge.
- Presented in an appropriate form, typically on the entity's website.

If requested in a specific form, the entity must take reasonable steps to provide the policy in that form.

These requirements are designed to promote transparency in the handling of personal information, providing individuals with clear information about how their personal information is managed and their rights in relation to that information.

APP 2 – Anonymity and pseudonymity

Australian Privacy Principle 2 (APP 2) focuses on anonymity and pseudonymity. Here are the key details:



Objective

The objective of APP 2 is to provide individuals with the option to protect their privacy by not disclosing their identity unless necessary. This principle supports the autonomy of individuals in controlling their personal information and encourages privacy-conscious interactions.

Compliance Requirements

For compliance, APP entities must ensure that their processes and systems allow for anonymous or pseudonymous interactions wherever feasible. They must inform individuals of their right to not identify themselves and facilitate this choice unless exceptions apply.

Exceptions to the Principle

- APP 2 does not apply if the APP entity is required or authorized by law or a court/tribunal order to deal with identified individuals.
- APP 2 will not apply if it is *impracticable* for the APP entity to deal with individuals who have not identified themselves or used a pseudonym.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 2, an APP entity might consider:

- Revising internal policies and customer interaction protocols to allow for anonymity and pseudonymity where feasible.
- Designing services and online platforms in a way that does not mandatorily require personal identification unless necessary for the service provided or due to legal obligations.
- Training staff to respect and facilitate requests for anonymous or pseudonymous interactions, ensuring they understand the exceptions and practicality considerations.
- Clearly communicating to individuals their rights under APP 2 through privacy notices, online platforms, and direct interactions, including the circumstances under which anonymity or pseudonymity cannot be honoured.

APP 3 – Collection of solicited personal information.

Australian Privacy Principle 3 focuses on the collection of solicited personal information. It outlines the conditions under which personal information can be collected by APP entities, emphasizing the necessity for the information to be



"reasonably necessary" for, or directly related to, one or more of the entity's functions or activities. Here are key details:

Objective

The objective of APP 3 is to ensure that personal information is collected by lawful and fair means and, where appropriate, with the knowledge or consent of the individual. This principle aims to protect individuals' privacy by limiting unnecessary or unauthorized data collection.

Compliance Requirements

APP entities must comply with APP 3 by:

- Collecting only the personal information that is reasonably necessary or directly related to their functions or activities.
- Using lawful and fair means to collect personal information.
- Where possible, collecting personal information directly from the individual concerned.
- Ensuring that if personal information is collected from a third party, it is done so in a manner that is lawful and respects the individual's privacy.

Exceptions to the Principle

There are specific exceptions where the standard requirements of APP 3 do not apply, such as:

- When the collection of sensitive information is concerned, higher standards apply, requiring explicit consent from the individual, unless specific exemptions are applicable.
- In emergency situations where an individual's health or safety is at risk, and it is impracticable to obtain their consent.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 3, an APP entity might consider:

- Reviewing and adjusting data collection processes to ensure only necessary information is collected.
- Implementing clear consent mechanisms where individuals are informed about the purposes of data collection and given a choice to consent.
- Training staff on the importance of data minimization and lawful data collection practices.
- Establishing protocols to verify the source of personal information when it is not collected directly from the individual, ensuring it aligns with APP 3 requirements.



- Designing services and online platforms in a way that limits the amount of personal information required for the APP entity to perform its function or delivery its service to the customer.
- Regularly reviewing data collection practices to ensure ongoing compliance with APP 3, adapting to changes in the entity's functions or activities that may affect data collection needs.

APP 4 – Dealing with unsolicited personal information.

APP 4 outlines the requirements for APP entities when they receive personal information that they have not solicited. It mandates that entities must, within a reasonable period, assess whether they could have lawfully collected the information under APP 3 had they solicited it.

Objective

The objective of APP 4 is to ensure that unsolicited personal information is managed in accordance with the privacy rights of individuals. If the information could <u>not</u> have been collected under APP 3, it must be destroyed or de-identified unless it forms part of a Commonwealth record.

Compliance Requirements

APP entities must comply with APP 4 by:

- Quickly deciding if the unsolicited information received could have been collected under APP 3.
- Destroying, or de-identifying the information if the unsolicited information could not have been collected under APP 3, and is not part of a Commonwealth record.
- Ensuring, that if the unsolicited information could have been collected under APP 3, that APPs 5 to 13 are applied to the unsolicited information as if the entity had solicited the information.

Exceptions to the Principle

No specific exceptions are outlined for APP 4. However, the requirement to destroy or de-identify does not apply if the information is contained in a Commonwealth record.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 4, an APP entity might consider:

• Developing and implementing policies for promptly assessing unsolicited personal information to determine its handling.



- Training staff to recognize unsolicited personal information and understand the steps required for its lawful management.
- Establishing secure processes for the destruction or de-identification of personal information that does not meet the collection criteria under APP 3.
- Establishing routine *data in storage* reviews targeted at identifying sources of unsolicited personal information for further handling.
- Keeping records of decisions made regarding unsolicited personal information, including assessments of whether the information could have been collected under APP 3 and actions taken to destroy or de-identify the information.

APP 5 – Notification of the collection of personal information

APP 5 mandates that APP entities must notify individuals or ensure they are aware of certain matters at or before the time of collecting their personal information, or as soon as practicable afterward.

Objective

The objective of APP 5 is to ensure individuals are informed about the collection of their personal information, the purposes for which it is collected, and how it will be used and whom it will be shared with. This principle aims to promote transparency and empower individuals regarding their personal data.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 5 by:

- Notifying individuals of the collection of their personal information and provide details such as the identity and contact details of the entity collecting the information, the source of the information if it's not collected from the individual, and the legal basis for its collection.
- Clearly communicating the purposes for collecting the personal information.
- Informing individuals of the main consequences, if any, of not providing the requested personal information.
- Disclosing any usual practices around sharing the collected information with other entities and the types of entities it may be shared with.
- Notifying individuals about how they can access and correct their personal information held by the entity.
- Informing individuals about the process for lodging complaints regarding the handling of their personal information.



• If applicable and practical, notifying individuals about the likelihood of their information being disclosed to overseas recipients, including potential locations.

Exceptions to the Principle

The requirement to notify individuals at or before the time of collection can be tempered by practicality, allowing entities to provide notification as soon as practicable afterward if immediate notification isn't feasible. While APP 5 does not detail any specific exceptions, it does imply that compliance is based upon what is "reasonable in the circumstances", suggesting some flexibility depending on the context of the data collection.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 5, an APP entity might consider:

- Incorporating the notification requirements into the entity's privacy policy, ensuring it's easily accessible, for example, on the entity's website.
- Developing clear, concise collection notices or privacy statements to accompany forms or digital collection points where personal information is gathered.
- Training staff involved in data collection on the importance of notification and how to effectively communicate the required information to individuals.
- For digital data collection through on-line platforms, incorporating pop-up notices or dedicated sections on websites and apps that inform users about the collection and use of their data before they submit their information.
- Maintaining records of notifications given to individuals for accountability and compliance verification purposes.
- Regularly reviewing and updating notification processes to ensure compliance with APP 5, especially when introducing new data collection methods, processes, or technologies.

APP 6 – Use or disclosure of personal information.

APP 6 mandates that if an APP entity holds personal information collected for a specific purpose (the primary purpose), it cannot use or disclose it for another purpose (a secondary purpose) without either the individual's consent or specific conditions existing that would otherwise justify use or disclosure. This principle emphasizes respecting the original context in which information was shared while providing flexibility for legitimate secondary uses.



Objective

The objective of APP 6 is to ensure that personal information is used and disclosed transparently and predictably, in line with individuals' expectations, and only for purposes that are directly related to the reason the information was initially collected, unless an exception applies.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 6 by:

- Obtaining individual consent for the use or disclosure of their information for a secondary purpose that is not related to the primary purpose of collection, or
- In the absence of specific individual consent, ensuring that the use or disclosure falls within the exceptions outlined in subclauses 6.2 or 6.3, such as when:
 - The individual would reasonably expect the use or disclosure for the secondary purpose, and it is directly related (for sensitive information) or related (for non-sensitive information) to the primary purpose.
 - The use or disclosure is required or authorized by law or a court/tribunal order.
 - $\circ~$ A permitted general situation or health situation exists.
 - The use or disclosure is necessary for enforcement-related activities by an enforcement body.

Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions to the need for consent for secondary use or disclosure include:

- Reasonable expectations of the individual for related secondary uses.
- Legal or court/tribunal mandates.
- Permitted general or health situations.
- Necessary enforcement activities.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 6, an APP entity might consider:

- Developing clear policies and procedures that define primary and potential secondary purposes for collected personal information, and documenting when personal information can be used or disclosed.
- Implementing consent mechanisms for secondary uses not covered by exceptions.
- Educating staff on the importance of obtaining consent and the circumstances under which personal information can be used or disclosed without consent.



- Establishing robust de-identification processes to ensure personal information is adequately protected before any permitted disclosure.
- Maintaining detailed records of all instances of use or disclosure of personal information for secondary purposes, especially those related to enforcement activities, to demonstrate compliance.

APP 7 – Direct marketing.

APP 7 pertains to direct marketing, stating that an organisation must not use or disclose personal information about an individual for the purpose of direct marketing, with certain exceptions.

Objective

The objective of APP 7 is to protect individuals' personal information from being used for direct marketing purposes without their consent, ensuring respect for personal privacy and choice.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 7 by:

- Not using or disclosing personal information for direct marketing unless an exception apply.
- Providing individuals with a simple means to opt out of direct marketing communications.
- If personal information is used under an exception, App entities must ensure that individuals have not previously requested to not receive direct marketing communications.

Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions allowing the use of personal information for direct marketing include:

- The App entity collected the information directly from the individual, and the individual would reasonably expect their information to be used for direct marketing.
- The individual has consented to the use of their information for direct marketing or it is impracticable to obtain consent.
- The use or disclosure is necessary for the App entity to meet an obligation under a Commonwealth contract.



Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 7, an APP entity might consider:

- Implementing systems and procedures to check whether an individual has opted out of direct marketing before using their information for such purposes.
- Including clear opt-out instructions in every direct marketing communication.
- Maintaining and regularly updating a list of individuals who have opted out of direct marketing to ensure their preferences are respected.
- Training staff on the importance of APP 7 compliance and how to handle personal information in accordance with the principle.

APP 8 – Cross-border disclosure of personal information.

APP 8 addresses the cross-border disclosure of personal information, requiring APP entities to ensure that overseas recipients do not breach the Australian Privacy Principles (other than APP 1) when handling personal information from Australia.

Objective

The objective of APP 8 is to safeguard personal information that is disclosed across borders, ensuring that it receives a comparable level of protection to that which it would receive in Australia.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 8 by:

- Taking reasonable steps to ensure the overseas recipient does not breach the APPs.
- Ensuring there are mechanisms for individuals to enforce the protection of their information under the recipient's local laws or binding schemes that are substantially similar to the APPs.

before disclosing personal information overseas.

Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions to APP 8 include situations where:

- The App entity believes the overseas recipient is subject to comparable laws or binding schemes.
- The individual consents to the disclosure with the understanding that APP 8 protections will not apply.



- The disclosure is required or authorised by Australian law or court/tribunal orders.
- A permitted general situation exists for the disclosure.
- For agencies, the disclosure is under an international agreement or necessary for enforcement activities, and the recipient has similar functions to an enforcement body.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 8, an APP entity might consider:

- Conducting due diligence on overseas recipients to verify they operate under similar privacy protections as the APPs.
- Including clauses in contracts with overseas recipients that require them to handle personal information in accordance with the APPs.
- Providing clear information to individuals about the potential overseas disclosure of their information and obtain their informed consent.
- Developing policies and procedures for assessing and documenting the adequacy of privacy protections in foreign jurisdictions.
- Training staff on the requirements of APP 8 and the importance of protecting personal information when it is disclosed overseas.

APP 9 – Adoption, use or disclosure of government-related identifiers.

APP 9 focuses on the adoption, use, or disclosure of government-related identifiers by App entities. It generally prohibits organisations from adopting a government-related identifier of an individual as its own identifier unless specific conditions are met.

Objective

The objective of APP 9 is to prevent the misuse of government-related identifiers, which could lead to privacy breaches and identity theft. It aims to ensure that these identifiers are used appropriately and only under controlled circumstances.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 9 by **NOT**:

- Adopting a government-related identifier of an individual as their own identifier unless required or authorized by law, a court/tribunal order, or the conditions under subclause 9.3 apply.
- Using or disclosing a government-related identifier unless it is necessary for the organization's activities, to fulfill obligations to an agency or state/territory

authority, required or authorized by law, a permitted general situation exists, or it is necessary for enforcement activities.

An example of a government-related identifier would be a drivers license number, Medicare number, or passport number.

Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions to APP 9 include situations where:

- The use or disclosure of the identifier is necessary for the organization to verify the individual's identity for its activities or functions.
- The use or disclosure is necessary to fulfill obligations to an agency or a state/territory authority.
- The use or disclosure is required or authorized by law or a court/tribunal order.
- A permitted general situation exists related to the use or disclosure of the identifier.
- The App entity believes the use or disclosure is necessary for enforcement activities conducted by or on behalf of an enforcement body.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 9, an APP entity might consider:

- Developing and implementing policies that strictly limit the use and disclosure of government-related identifiers to situations that meet the exceptions outlined in APP 9.
- Training staff on the importance of protecting government-related identifiers and the legal requirements for their use and disclosure.
- Establishing procedures to verify whether the use or disclosure of a governmentrelated identifier is necessary for the organisation's activities or to fulfill its obligations.
- Implementing security measures to protect government-related identifiers from misuse, interference, loss, and unauthorized access, modification, or disclosure.

APP 10 – Quality of personal information.

APP 10 mandates that APP entities must take reasonable steps to ensure the quality of the personal information they handle. This involves ensuring that the information collected is accurate, up-to-date, and complete. Additionally, when personal information is used or disclosed, it must also be relevant to the purpose of its use or disclosure, besides being accurate, up-to-date, and complete.



Objective

The objective of APP 10 is to maintain the integrity and reliability of personal information within the purview of APP entities. It emphasizes the importance of handling personal information in a way that reflects its current and complete state, thus ensuring that decisions based on this information are made on a solid factual foundation.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 10 by:

- Ensuring that personal information is accurate, reflecting the true facts as they are known.
- Ensuring that information is kept current, reflecting any changes in circumstances as soon as practicable.
- Ensuring that the information they collect is not missing any part that would make it misleading.
- Ensuring that when using or disclosing personal information, that the information is pertinent to the purpose of the usage or disclosure, avoiding the use of irrelevant information that could lead to inappropriate outcomes.

Exceptions to the Principle

APP 10 does not provide explicit exceptions. However, the requirement to take "reasonable steps" implies that what is considered reasonable can depend on the circumstances, including the nature of the personal information, the purpose of its use, and the potential impact of inaccuracies.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 10, an APP entity might consider:

- Implementing regular reviews and audits of personal information databases to identify and correct inaccuracies and update information.
- Establishing channels through which individuals can report changes in their personal information or inaccuracies, and promptly acting on such reports.
- Developing and enforcing internal policies and procedures that promote the accuracy, completeness, and currency of personal information.
- Educating staff about the importance of data quality and providing them with the tools and knowledge to maintain it.



APP 11 – Security of personal information.

APP 11 mandates that APP entities must take reasonable steps to ensure the security of personal information they hold. This includes protecting the information from misuse, interference, loss, and unauthorized access, modification, or disclosure.

Objective

The objective of APP 11 is to safeguard personal information against security breaches that could compromise the privacy and integrity of individuals' data. It aims to instil trust in the entity's data handling practices by ensuring that personal information is securely managed throughout its lifecycle.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 11 by:

- Implementing physical, technical, and administrative security measures tailored to the risks associated with the personal information held.
- Ensuring that personal information is only retained for as long as necessary for its intended purposes and securely disposing of or de-identifying the information when it is no longer needed.
- Limiting access to personal information to authorised personnel only and ensuring that those who have access are adequately trained on their responsibilities for protecting the data.

Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions to APP 11 include situations where:

- Information contained in Commonwealth records is subject to the Archives Act 1983 and may not be destroyed. The principle acknowledges this by not applying the destruction requirement to Commonwealth records.
- An entity is required by law or a court/tribunal order to retain personal information, the requirement to destroy or de-identify the information when it is no longer needed does not apply.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 11, an APP entity might consider:

- Developing comprehensive security policies and procedures that address the risks associated with the personal information held.
- Conducting regular security audits and monitoring to detect potential vulnerabilities and to ensure continuous improvement of security measures.



- Establishing a data breach response plan to effectively address any security incidents, including notification to affected individuals and regulatory bodies where required.
- Providing ongoing training to employees about their roles in maintaining the security of personal information and raising awareness about potential security threats.

APP 12 – Access to personal information.

APP 12 stipulates that APP entities must provide individuals access to their personal information upon request. This principle ensures transparency and allows individuals to verify the accuracy and completeness of their personal information held by an entity.

Objective

The objective of APP 12 is to empower individuals by granting them the right to access their personal information. It supports the individual's right to know what personal information is held about them, how it is being used, and to ensure that this information is accurate and up-to-date.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 12 by:

- Providing access to personal information upon an individual's request unless an exception applies.
- Responding within a reasonable period after an information request is made (Agencies are required to respond within 30 days of the request being made).
- Providing access to the information in the manner requested by the individual if it is reasonable and practicable to do so.

Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions to APP 12 include situations where:

- Access to the information would pose a serious threat to life, health, or safety, impact the privacy of others, relate to legal proceedings, or if giving access would be unlawful.
- The request is frivolous or vexatious, would prejudice negotiations, enforcement activities, or reveal commercially sensitive evaluative information.
- For Agencies, if providing access would contradict the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act or similar laws.



Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 12, an APP entity might consider:

- Establishing a clear protocol for handling access requests, including verification of the requester's identity to protect the individual's information from unauthorised access.
- Training staff on how to process access requests efficiently and in compliance with APP 12, including understanding when exceptions apply.
- Communicating clearly with individuals about the process for accessing their personal information, including any applicable charges and the expected timeframe for a response.
- Keeping detailed records of access requests and the entity's response to these requests, including reasons for any refusal to grant access.

APP 13 – Correction of personal information.

APP 13 mandates that APP entities must take reasonable steps to correct personal information they hold if it is incorrect. This principle ensures the accuracy and completeness of the personal information handled by entities.

Objective

The objective of APP 13 is to ensure the integrity of personal information by allowing individuals to request corrections to their personal information and ensuring that entities proactively correct information when they become aware of inaccuracies.

Compliance Requirements

App entities must comply with APP 13 by:

- Correcting personal information upon request by the individual concerned.
- Taking proactive steps to correct personal information when they are satisfied, independently of any request, that the information is inaccurate, out-of-date, incomplete, irrelevant, or misleading.
- Notifying third parties of previously disclosed personal information of any personal information corrections made where it is practicable and lawful to do so.
- Providing written notice to an individual when an entity refuses to correct personal information, with the written notice explaining the reasons for refusal and the complaint mechanisms available.



Exceptions to the Principle

Exceptions to APP 13 include situations where:

• To the extent that a correction of personal information would conflict with legal or regulatory obligations, the entity may not be required to correct the personal information.

Real World Adoption Approaches

To comply with APP 13, an APP entity might consider:

- Developing a clear policy and procedure for handling requests for correction of personal information, including timelines for responding to requests and mechanisms for reviewing refusal decisions.
- Training staff on the importance of maintaining accurate personal information and how to process correction requests effectively.
- Keeping records of correction requests and actions taken, including notifications to third parties and reasons for any refusals.
- Regularly reviewing and auditing personal information holdings to identify and correct inaccurate information proactively.

Conclusion

Technology is constantly enhancing both the operations and opportunities of businesses, which has in turned increased the data that organisations collect and process. Consequently, it is the responsibility of every business – whether large or small – to ensure that there is an appropriate level of data and privacy governance in place to protect both your customers data and your reputation. This responsibility is now being highlighted and enforced by legislation such as the Australian Privacy Act 1988, with heavy penalties potentially levied on those that do not comply with the regulations. It is thus important for every business to include Privacy and Data Governance on their management reporting dashboard for compliance, monitoring, and continuous improvement.

