

Q2

Report

2025-26



Contents

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

**From the
CEO** _____ **3**

**Quarter
at-a-glance** _____ **5**

**.au by
numbers** _____ **6**

**.au
scorecard** _____ **7**

From the CEO

Dr Bruce Tonkin
auDA Chief Executive Officer



The second quarter of the 2025–26 financial year was a constructive period for auDA, with steady progress across our strategic priorities and continued delivery of our core functions.

Delivering a secure and reliable .au

Over the quarter, auDA continued to deliver strong operational performance of the .au domain name system (DNS). To achieve this, we collaborate across the .au domain name sector to ensure Australians can continue to rely on the security and stability of the .au.

In Q2, we participated in a number of crisis exercises to build our preparedness and resilience for potential incidents and ensure we respond to the evolving cyber landscape. We also hosted our annual Registrar Summit, which provides an opportunity to share updates and discuss industry developments across the sector. This year's Summit had a focus on security, helping us as a sector contribute to the ongoing security and resilience of .au.

.au for the benefit of all Australians

In Q2, we saw growth of 1.5 per cent in total .au domain name registrations. We also saw a 14.4 per cent increase in new .au domain names created, up from -0.8 per cent in Q2 the previous year, with growth supported by auDA's Aussies Get It awareness campaign and registrar marketing campaigns.

auDA's compliance activity is an important way we uphold the integrity of .au domain names. In Q2, auDA conducted 7,566 compliance audits, a year-on-year increase of 73 per cent. This growth stemmed from process improvements, automation and the efforts of auDA's Compliance Team, contributing to consumer trust in .au.

During Q2, work also continued on the .au Licensing Rules Review, led by the external Policy Advisory Panel.

The review forms part of auDA's commitment to ensure the .au Licensing Rules remain fit for purpose and serve the needs of Australians. In the period, the Panel hosted two virtual town halls and called for submissions on the Rules. Consultation will continue in Q3, as we seek input from all those with an interest in contributing.

Contributing to the internet governance ecosystem

Under our Strategy, we seek to positively impact our ecosystem. One way we do this is through our advocacy for a strengthened multi-stakeholder model of internet governance. In December, the World Summit on the Information Society 20 year review (WSIS+20) concluded, endorsing the multi-stakeholder model and providing a permanent mandate for the Internet Governance Forum (IGF). auDA's contributions to the review were in large part made through the Technical Community Coalition for Multistakeholderism (TCCM), a coalition of technical operators. The TCCM's advocacy reinforced the technical community as a key part of the multi-stakeholder model, the value of multi-stakeholder internet governance and the value of the IGF. You can read more on [The .au blog](#).

In December, we also announced auDA has been selected to host the 91st Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD91) Member's Meeting in Brisbane in February 2027. Hosting APTLD91 will provide an opportunity for auDA and APTLD to bring together the domain sector from across the Asia Pacific to share knowledge and discuss issues shaping the domain name system.

Corporate governance

During the quarter, the Board reviewed the way it receives external input on topics related to .au and auDA. To support the Board to continue receiving specialised guidance on key and emerging areas of focus, it will move to a model of topic specific advisory committees established for specific periods when required, such as the current Policy Advisory Panel. As a result, the General Advisory Standing Committee and Technical Advisory Standing Committee concluded in December 2025. The edu.au Advisory Committee will continue to provide ongoing guidance on edu.au matters. Thank you to the members of the General and Technical Advisory Standing Committees for their insights provided to the auDA Board over their terms.



auDA's inaugural [Public Impact Report](#) was released in November 2025 and sets out the ways we deliver a positive impact for Australians.

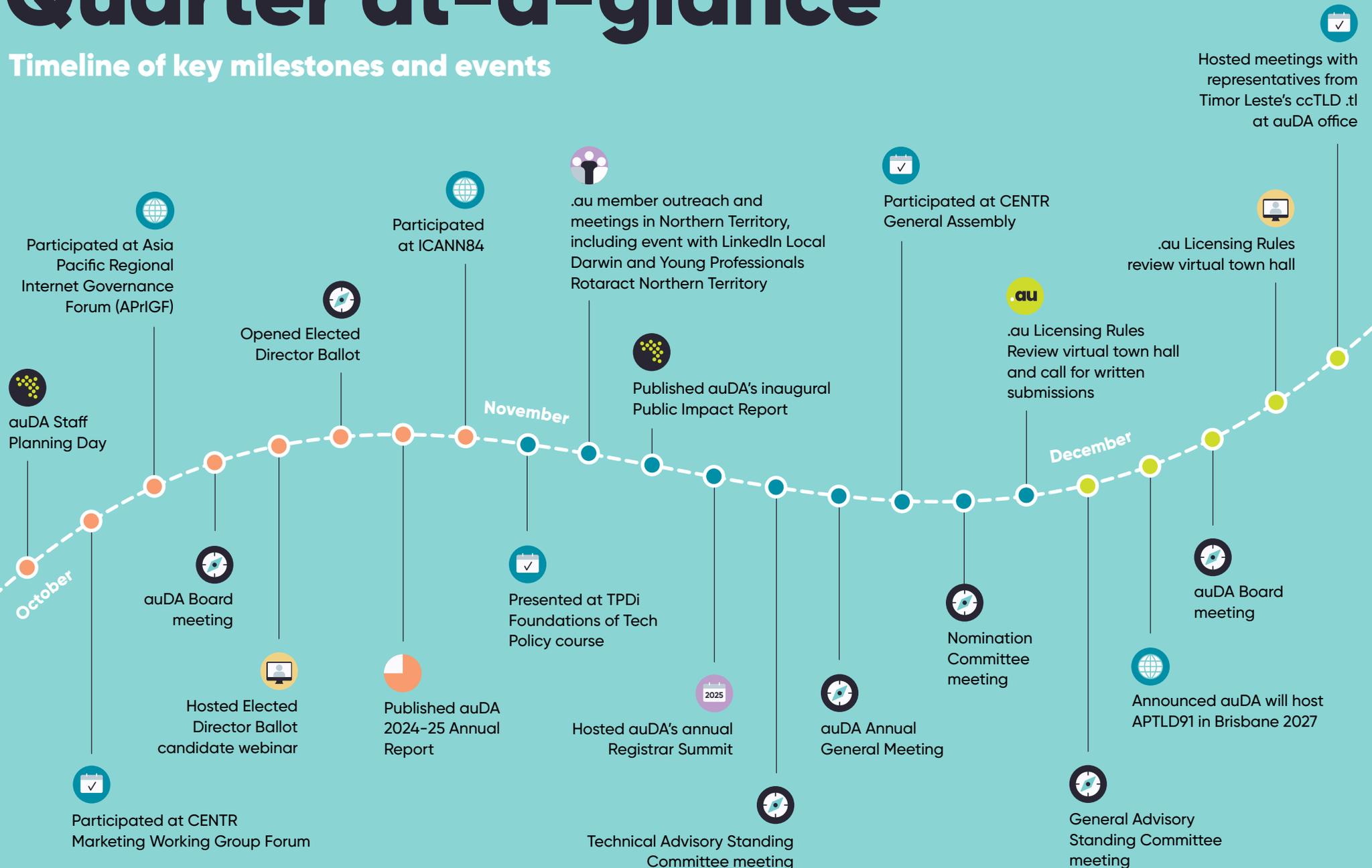
Following auDA's Annual General Meeting in November, we welcomed Marina Go AM as Chair of the auDA Board, with Alan Cameron AO stepping down from the role after six years as Chair.

We also farewelled Wendy Thorpe AM at the conclusion of her term and welcomed new Appointed Director Dr Sarv Girm, alongside continuing Appointed Director Sandra Hook. auDA members also elected Sandra Davey and Mike Trovato to continue as Elected Directors for a further term.

On behalf of the auDA team, I thank Alan for his dedicated leadership and guidance as Chair of the auDA Board and Wendy for her significant contributions to auDA. I also welcome Marina and Sarv and congratulate Sandra, Sandra and Mike. I look forward to continuing to work closely with the Board as we deliver a secure, trusted and reliable .au for the benefit of all Australians. My thanks also to the auDA team and our stakeholders for their continued commitment and collaboration throughout the quarter.

Quarter at-a-glance

Timeline of key milestones and events



.au by numbers

Variations are year-on-year

REGISTRATIONS

4,294,913 +1.5%

Domains under management, at 31 Dec 2025

163,853 +14.4%

New domain names created in Q2 FY2026

DNS AND REGISTRY SERVICES

100%

DNS availability

100%

WHOIS availability

100%

Registry database availability

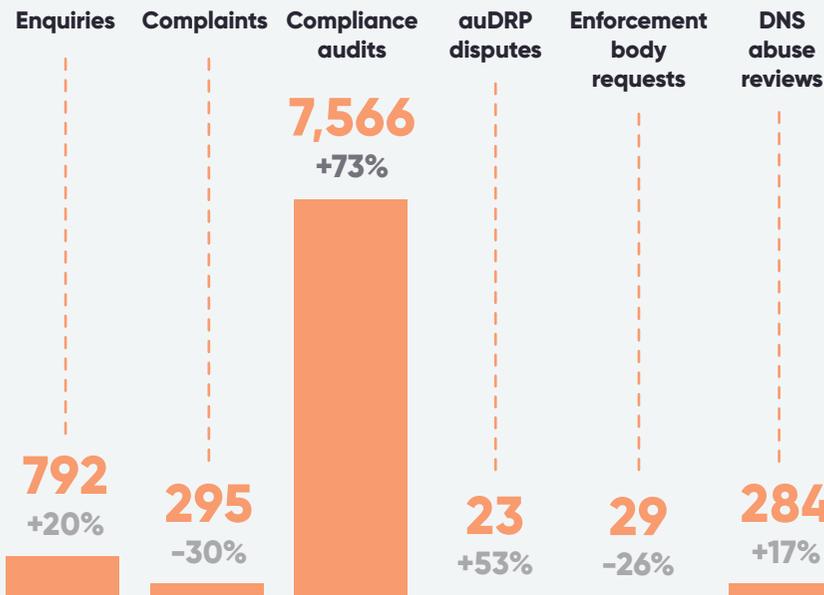
73,106 -2.2%

Average .au DNS queries per second in Q2

SECURITY

32 All registrars maintained ISO 27001 certification or equivalent

COMPLIANCE



ENGAGEMENTS

2

Registrar briefings

2

.au member events, workshops and sponsorships

5

auDA webinars

MEMBERS

6,264 +16%

.au members, at 31 Dec 2025

178

New members in Q2

.au scorecard

Overview of strategic objectives and key results

Strategic Pillar	Objective	Key Results	Measure	Target by 30 June 2026	Status
Trust	Strengthen Australians' trust in .au and auDA and grow Australians' engagement in the digital economy and society.	Raise the trust and integrity of .au domain names	Monthly percentage of new registrations and renewals with validated Australian presence	99% creates 95% renewals	On track
		Diversify membership and grow member engagement	Gender diversity	26% women	On track
Innovation	Use new technologies and approaches to ensure the financial sustainability of auDA and improve the utility of .au	Improve organisational productivity	Number of compliance audits managed per person per month	200 audits	On track
Impact	Strengthen multi-stakeholder internet governance, develop new DNS and internet governance experts, support R&D and digital inclusion.	Drive a growing cohort of Australians skilled & participating in internet governance and DNS	Number of graduates from APIGA Australia and auDA Fellowships	85 (cumulative)	On track
		Achieve net zero carbon emissions in the operation of .au	Net carbon emissions trend toward zero**	Reductions and offsets equal a 5% reduction	On track
Capability	Grow leadership and technical skills to confidently meet the dynamic challenges of our dynamic environment.	Leadership Team members have completed a leadership training program	Percentage of leadership team that have completed leadership training	90% of Leadership team have completed foundational leadership program	On track
		AI is integrated into the business, enabling greater productivity	Percentage of employees using AI tools to support productivity.	100%	On track



Read [auDA's 2026-30 Strategy](#).

* GreenHouse Gases (GHGs) are measured in Carbon Dioxide Equivalents (CO2e)

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