

auDA Compliance Plan 2023–24

Under our Terms of Endorsement from the Australian Government, auDA must administer a licensing regime for .au domain names, based in multi stakeholder processes, that is transparent, responsive, accountable, accessible and efficient.

One of the ways in which we meet this core function is to publish an annual Compliance Plan that sets out the compliance activities we undertake to develop, maintain, and ensure compliance with, the licensing rules of the .au domain.

This approach is:

- **Transparent** - we publish our compliance priorities in our annual report and on our website.
- **Responsive** - our compliance priorities have been identified through a variety of mechanisms including analysis of complaints data, audits of registry data and registrar processes and engagement with industry, government and other stakeholders.
- **Accountable** - we report in our annual report against outcomes achieved under this compliance plan.
- **Accessible** - our compliance priorities are written in plain English and are easily accessible on our website.
- **Efficient** - Our compliance plan is an efficient use of resources as compliance needs are prioritised and



resources are applied to areas of greatest need and impact.

This Compliance Plan sets out the priorities that will guide our compliance activities in 2023/2024. These compliance priorities align with our strategic focus on trust, to deliver outcomes that promote and enhance the security and integrity of the .au for the benefit of all Australians.

We build trust by:

1. administering auDA policies openly and transparently
2. undertaking targeted compliance activity to maintain the integrity of the .au domain
3. driving down DNS abuse – including malware, botnets, phishing, pharming and related spam – to reduce online harm in the .au.

We take proportional, considered action, and work with registrars and domain name licence holders (registrants) to ensure compliance with the rules of the .au.

Our approach is to:

1. Communicate and educate
2. Guide and facilitate
3. Enforce where breaches are not rectified.



Our Compliance Priorities for 2023/24

1. Reducing DNS abuse

We will build on our work in 2022/23 to develop a best practice approach to reducing DNS abuse, leading to ongoing reduction in the rate of DNS abuse in the .au.

2. Education and guidance on DNS abuse reduction for registrants

We will work with registrants to help them understand and activate their role in reducing the rate of DNS abuse in the .au.

3. Working with registrars to improve the integrity of registry data

We will continue to work with auDA accredited registrars on their validation plans, with a focus on ensuring that registrant information is validated at the time of domain name renewal.

4. Engaging with stakeholders to undertake a review of the .au Licensing Rules

We will consult publicly on proposed minor changes to the .au Licensing Rules, before publishing the finalised changes in early 2024.

We will report on outcomes achieved under this Compliance Plan in our 2023/24 Annual Report.