

# Survey Results: **aufeedback.org.au**

## Contents

<b>Answer summary</b> .....	3
<b>1. The impact of allocation rules</b> .....	4
If response ‘Negative’ or ‘Very Negative’: What are those impacts and how can we change the rules mitigate them? .	5
<b>2. The Public Interest Test</b> .....	11
If no: What changes can we make to make the balance better? .....	12
<b>3. Sub-domains</b> .....	28
If “No”: How should auDA take action on sub-domains of .au domains which break the rules or facilitate unlawful activity?.....	29
<b>4. Prohibition on sub-leasing</b> .....	44
If “No”: How can auDA ensure the .au licensing rules aren’t circumvented by entities sub-leasing a .au domain they may not otherwise be eligible for? .....	45
<b>5. Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs)</b> .....	55
If “negative” or “very negative”: What are the impacts and how can the rules be changed to reduce them?.....	56
<b>6. Second level names implementation: The cut-off date for .au priority</b> .....	75
Suggested Dates.....	76
Why that date? .....	77
<b>7. Second Level Names Implementation: The ‘lockdown’ allocation model</b> .....	94
If “no” - What changes should we make to create a better balance?.....	95
<b>Further Comments</b> .....	116

## Answer summary

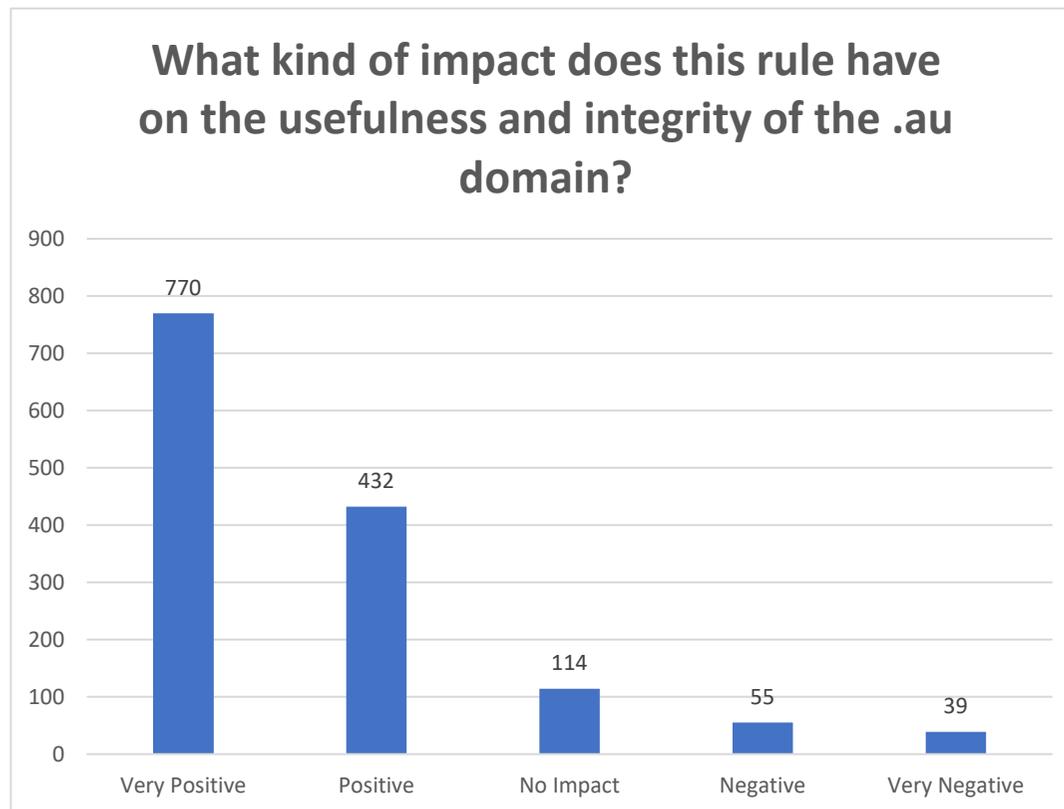
Question	Yes	No	Very Positive	Positive	No Impact	Negative	Very Negative	Total
<b>Allocation rules:</b> What kind of impact does this rule have on the usefulness and integrity of the .au domain?			770	432	114	55	39	1410
<b>Public interest Test:</b> Have we struck the right balance between the interests of private citizens (registrants) and the interests of governments and law enforcement agencies to protect the community?	911	277						1188
<b>Sub-domains:</b> Should auDA have the right to suspend or cancel a .au domain name because of activity conducted on sub-domains created under it?	841	296						1137
<b>Sub-leasing prohibition:</b> Is the prohibition on sub-leasing domains (except by related corporate entities) justified?	875	216						1091
<b>Internationalised Domain Names:</b> What kind of impact will the introduction of IDNs have on the .au domain?			73	189	446	215	147	1070
<b>Cut-Off Date:</b> Given the launch of second level names is delayed until mid-2020 is the cut-off date of 4 February 2018 still appropriate?	655	357						1012
<b>Lockdown model:</b> Have we got the right balance between protecting the interests of existing and new registrants?	708	267						975

## 1. The impact of allocation rules

When you register a com.au or net.au domain name, there needs to be a connection between your business and the domain name.

These connections include the name of a product, brand, service or event associated with your company.

Known as allocation rules, these rules aim to protect consumers (you know who you're dealing with) and ensure fair trading (you can't pass yourself off as another brand).



If response 'Negative' or 'Very Negative': What are those impacts and how can we change the rules mitigate them?

More spam
I cannot be declared as a product or a service, and yet if I wish to register the domain of my name,
I only run personal sites and would like a .au, but can't because I am not a business
I don't think I've ever heard of this rule being upheld. Ive encountered many .au domains being squatted on for the purpose of flipping them.
Guess why?
I can't register a new name unless I already have a
Question should've separated integrity and usefulness aspects. Does improve integrity but it restricts capacity for individuals to own sites...
If a broker buys it you're screwed
People just go and get a .com instead.
May prevent getting au for future speculative projects
I had my ABN cancelled for not doing tax for a number of years but the websites I was creating were largely small projects without profits in mind, but still wanted to register the .com.au and .net.au domains as most people see it tied to region and not to a specific business or brand.
I might call business xyz trust but call myself abc building
Prevents fun/innovation/creativity
Why is it restricted to companies?
Consumers don't care whether a site is .au or .com or anything else. The only impact of the rule is on domain purchasers, who just move elsewhere. Why would I buy an .au 2LD with its red tape restrictions when I have a hundred options of TLD no questions asked? Just get rid of the allocation rules and make it first-come, first served like .com!
Do the same rules as .com
140 million .com registered should show you it works!
What if you're a new proposition that is testing the waters? Will you need to have a registered business name before you can buy the domain? What about developers buying the domain for their customers? More hoops to jump through?
a domain remains property and that should not be impinged on

Not all people or services have a business as such.

In today's world private people offer their skills to others, support groups offer their services to others, community based clubs and projects offer their services and many are not registered as such. So they are unable to obtain a .au email or website.

I currently can't have my personal name unless I have an ABN registered in my personal name. That's too restrictive. It should be easier for private citizens to get an au domain name that's linked to them.

.com.au and .net.au are not efficient in terms of marketing. .au sounds much better.

Impacts the ability to easily purchase domains for new potential businesses.

Get rid of the restrictions on registering .au domain names

There used to be a fairly strict rules around the domain name closely matching the business name, but these days that seems to have been relaxed and the domain name may just resemble a marketing slogan. I think the rules should only apply to .com.au only and either be strictly enforced or relaxed completely. And .net.au should have no such rules.

I have three major concerns.

It is a potential impediment to speech about companies. If I was to create a domain that is a spin off of a name of a company to complain about them having dodgy business practices eg if I was to acquire a domain name that is one letter off a companies that then turns it into an insult and then the page criticises the company, I wouldn't like it if I was silenced on that basis.

It rejects the concept of a webpage being property. It directly relates it as a service and undermines its value as an asset.

Finally, if I had established a site that was not primarily commercial but had small scale sales eg merchandise that was ran as a sole trader and just named the site something I liked that holds no direct connection to myself. It could be potentially seized due to a new company registering that name or an established company releasing a product. This would entirely undermine a social blog or small hobbyist store.

I don't believe this can be mitigated effectively because having the door open will inherently come with the ability to make legal threats and the costs to even fight a malicious claim would be more then registration of the domain for decades. Even having the door open for cases in the strictest of senses where it is obvious fraud or impersonation would be exploited and can already be sorted through existing civil litigation. This solves no real problems and just has downsides for all but the largest of companies and removes the current fair playing field.

Domains should be treated as property as it emphasises their value and the effort in increasing the sites SEO.

Maybe in the case of fraud by application from the ACCC(companies and individuals can complain to them) with a review to the court a site can be delisted but honestly it won't be effective as nothing ever is going to be. You will just create attack methods from the unscrupulous.

Underlying this rule is the supposition there is a body that is policing the policy and knows more about the businesses, what they are doing and what they are planning to do in the future. It's not the role of auda to be the police but rather the judge.

It blocks the creation of informal domains, I had great difficulty in purchasing sfcu.com.au for my new football supporter group because it was neither business nor personal. It took weeks of arguing before it 2as allowed. Not every site is a business or a legal entity, I use .com instead f o r my informal projects because .com.au is such a hassle

To give an example do a whois on 'crslawyers.com.au'. Registered using Boral's ABN. Used for SpearPhishing

I don't have a business or abn so I can not have a .au domain

<p>This may limit the ability of a site to use a brand name or tag line that differentiates them. The objective may be better achieved by rephrasing the rule: when you register a domain name, it CANNOT imply a connection with a brand, service, or business that is NOT connected to the business.</p>
<p>For example: I run a business repairing motor vehicles; the rules should prevent me from registering a domain name like "handbags.com.au" but otherwise allow me plenty of latitude for a creative name.</p>
<p>I shouldn't have to use the .id.au namespace for my personal site</p>
<p>More complicated to register domains and still doesn't do a good job of protecting branding.</p>
<p>It can't be subdivided</p>
<p>The Allocation rules around Trademark should be 'Close and substantial' instead of 'exact match' of a registered or pending Australian trademark. There are many clients based in overseas register their AU domains for mainly brand protection purposes. They typically use Australian Trademark to meet the eligibility criteria as ABN/ACN is not available. Under current rule, they are able to use same TM for the registration for various version of the brand name. If the rule is changed to 'exact match', it will cause negative impact and cost for many of our clients as they are required to register AU Trademark for each existing domain names.</p>
<p>Restricts domains in .com.au from ordinary users that may want to try something new. It's naive and outdated to think only businesses provide content and services on the web.</p>
<p>this overly restricts the potential for people to start up websites in the .au domain unless they are business owners or can otherwise prove they aim to provide this service. This overly restricts innovation and is a negative for the Australian economy as well as internet freedoms.</p>
<p>In todays tech world, the domain name comes first, way before the product. The rules as they are simply don't allow that, it keeps Australia behind</p>
<p>Why have this? No other major ccTLD does. Nor does dot com</p>
<p>I'll buy a .com/.net before I would consider a .com.au address as I don't get the restrictiveness of the current allocation rules and I'm more interested anonymizing my whois entries which are just farmed for spam anyway. Just because someone has an ABN and buys a .com.au doesn't mean they aren't a shit company so who cares...</p>
<p>This rule impacts on entrepreneurs and independant australian authors .etc preventing them from owning the .com.au domain causing them to get the .com domain which does not represent an australian domain</p>
<p>Must be registered in Australia and have Australia presence and address</p>
<p>Increase the already extensive list of fraudulent overseas companies who market to Australians in other currencies, with lax privacy laws and with dodgy business practices that scam money out of customers.</p>
<p>Means it can't compete and excludes potential (legitimate) registrants</p>

<p>When you have a new business name idea but you haven't yet registered it on the ABR/ASIC or have an ABN, especially when it is time critical to register a domain name, you have to wait until it is approved which can take a couple of business days.</p>
<p>Most Australians just register .com as a result. We are artists, hobbyists, writers, thinkers. Not everything needs a registered bloody business name to be a legitimate identifier.</p>
<p>This rule would reduce small businesses from trying new products. Rather than getting a low cost domain to test the idea the business would need to register a business name for each product iteration to satisfy this rule.</p> <p>Most names are already taken or IP protected so need to invent names with a random combo of letters.</p> <p>These random combo letter names e.g.</p> <p>chibby.com.au have no referent so I would have to change my business name to match chibby or register a new business</p>
<p>It is particularly onerous and difficult for individuals to get domain names to represent them, due to the requirement of having a connection with a business. This turns many individuals away from a .com.au or .net.au domain and towards other less indicative domains.</p>
<p>I think the rule should be that it's not misleading. I don't have a registered business but I often use domains for projects (energysavingsselfcare.com is one example) and I can never use .au domains for them which makes me sad</p>
<p>This change of rule will impact the values of the domain names and hence impacting negatively to domain name investors.</p>
<p>The rules can't be policed. If someone is infringing on someone else's trademark they can apply to WIPO. Anyone should be able to register whatever domain they want. There are millions of domains still available. I don't understand how you have written they aim to protect consumers or ensure fair trading.</p>
<p>I mean it feels a very "twenty years ago" rule... considering that dot com tends to be like a default domain name rather than a name for companies these days</p>
<p>Open up .com.au , .net.au with same rules as .com</p>
<p>There are many other consumer protection laws and regulations. It is unnecessary red tape to have a business closely associated to a domain name.</p> <p>It puts an undue onus on domain owners who fear having domains ripped away.</p> <p>It also stops small business owners and intenders from registering names for new ideas</p> <p>That don't get off the ground.</p>

It's peoples choice what domain to buy, if you use a trade mark obviously there are implications, this rule will only make people go to .com or other extensions. Get with the times AUDA.

Big brother always wanting to find new ways to control people with convincing undertones

Having a connection between a domain name and a business is irrelevant. If you want ro protect consumers then make it mandatory for domains with the .au tld to have certain details published on websites such as a phone number, email address etc rather than worrying about a so called connection. If someone wants to sell one product one week and a completely different product the next week that requires a different domain name then that should be fine. The domain name would be relevant to the product which is appropriate, the name of the person or business who owns the domain is irrelevant. Also, as there is a whole industry of people buying and selling domains for profit, there is no reason why people/businesses who do this should have to have any connection to the domain other than ownership.

There are many more reasons but above is 2 really relevant examples.of why this concept needs to change.

No need to put restrictions on ownership.

## 2. The Public Interest Test

The growing importance of the .au domain to the Australian economy and government service delivery means that it is an attractive target for cybercrime and espionage

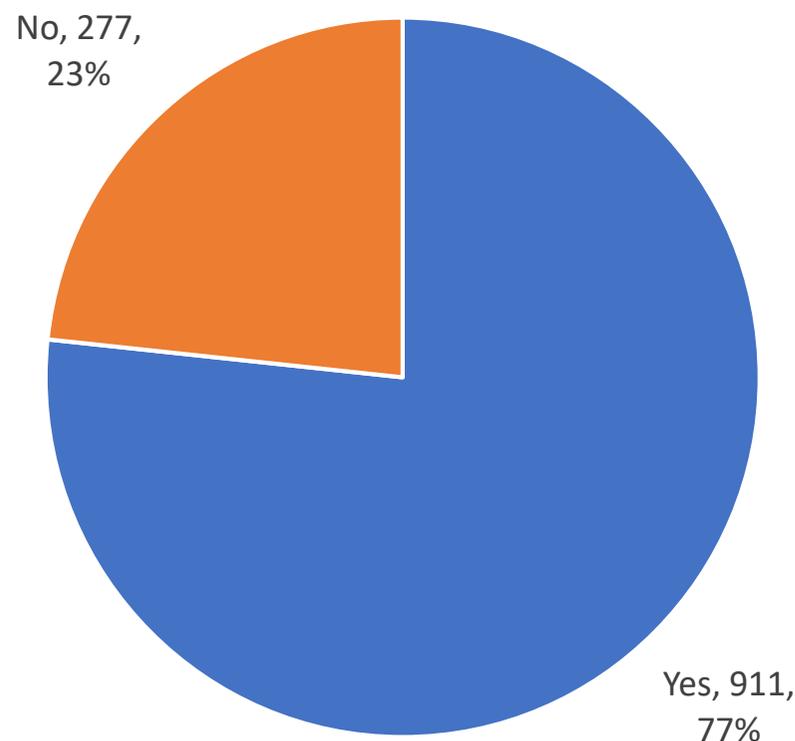
After consulting with government and relevant law enforcement agencies auDA has added new rules to ensure that requests to cancel or suspend a domain name are being handled in the public interest - a concern common to the public at large or a significant portion of the public.

Australia believes in an open and free internet and these requests can impact a person's right to use the internet and transact online.

Now, each request must be made by an enforcement or intelligence agency and must meet one of the following public interest objectives:

- The proper administration of government
- The judicial system
- Public health and safety
- National security
- The prevention and detection of crime and fraud
- Consumer protection
- The economic wellbeing of Australia
- Complying with Australia's obligations under international law
- The integrity, stability or security of the Domain Name system

**Have we struck the right balance between the interests of private citizens (registrants) and the interests of governments and law enforcement agencies to protect the community?**



If no: What changes can we make to make the balance better?

<b>What changes can we make to make the balance better?</b>
Individuals and Australian registered businesses, who can show that their dispute meets one of these tests should be able to lodge, as well.
Too broad - who defines national security and economic wellbeing?
What about the average person?
National security has zero context with a domain name
N
Law enforcement has better things to do than tell auDA about a maliciously registered domain name. You should as a regulator accept reports from banks and the general public where things like phishing and malware abuse of an .au domain are clear and obvious. Waiting for law enforcement just delays shit. Stop trying to pass the buck.
Include protection of civil rights (freedoms, privacy etc) as a consideration.
Private citizens registering domain names needs to be easier.
All requests should be handled in open court, or there is no protecting the public interest.
Put in a review/notice period BEFORE cancelling it or allowing a cancellation request to be made.
Make attempts to contact the domain owner (by phone). This should help.
You have not listed transparency here. Requests to suspend or cancel a domain name should be completely open and transparent
This question should have a not sure answer, as it assumes I have studied the relevant changes
Public prosecutor need to take action and take the matter to court and prosecute.
in the event of a business winding down, this would add an unnecessary additional delay in proceedings
the objectives seem rather broad and sweeping and could be used to forward an agenda not related to a free and secure internet.
Any rules that allow the Government to shut down websites can and will be be abused to silence those that they want silenced. All they need to do is cite national security - just like the US does.
I don't know, I'm not an expert in this area
This question is not clear. Needs more context.
The problem is not so much in the definition of a 'public interest test', it's the vague objectives such as #4, national security. Australian government(s) seem to have an obsession with passing poorly thought out legislation such as the

2018 encryption laws, which effectively can force you or any employee to take very dubious action under threat of prison, with no recourse to challenge publicly.
The details are important but are not shown in the explanation. I actually do not know.
Seems a bit big brother ish
Why is the no provision for private citizens to lodge a complaint?
The question is not clear.
If you are proposing that the public can report suspect domains and law enforcement can investigate these claims, with the ability to cancel the registration after the claims have been substantiated through the justice system I support that. I also support the interim parking of domains while investigation is taking place.
I would expect there to also be an appeal process, penalties for false reports and an avenue for claiming compensation for losses sustained as a result of incorrectly suspended/cancelled domains.
Allow owners of domain names to also cancel or suspend them.
Guidelines are still too loose and favour government.
Substantially shorten the list of allowable reasons. That list is so long and broad, any domain shutdown could be squeezed into one of them.
Too broad
This is all in the authorities favour
I don't understand the question
Cancellation or suspension of a properly registered domain is not the way to tackle the bad guys. Make it a requirement that they are physically contactable by Australian authorities and let them deal with the bad behaviour. There is too much scope for malicious fake complaints otherwise.
Some of those categories are incredibly broad. There should be a proper process of law not just a government agency declaring something.
Review rules to ensure rules can't be exploited to limit freedom of speech due to differing of beliefs, religion etc
The objectives should be more specific. Too many of them are very broad and open to interpretation
Like to a real entity like an ABN or ACN
Individuals or Consumers need means to report potential misuse so prompt action can be taken to protect. Agencies have significant other things to deal with only enabling requests to be made by those agency could lead to big delays in action enabling more people to be exposed to risks

We use .com sites all the time global address points are a thing.
I think privacy is most important.
Do TLDs. Don't cave to governments.
Talks of encryption bans are terrifying
Domains could be cancelled for purely political reasons with undisclosed requests from government agencies- think the leaked list of the great Australian firewall. Cancellations should be public and have a warrant system to prevent the obvious and inevitable abuse from governments that love a good crack at political censorship.
National security is too broad. I'm no expert but never felt so watched or controlled by authority abusing its power. Disgusting what filth in power has protection from when abusing the system.
Protect journalism and FOI.
The weighting favours punitive use not related to significant crime issues
Confining this to an enforcement or intelligence agency means that only what they consider important is done. In the case of fraudulent websites put up by perpetrators of domestic violence, it is very hard to get law enforcement and intelligence agencies to take these threats seriously. Until they do - this shouldn't be the only way to suspend or cancel a domain name.
There is currently far too many websites being arbitrarily blocked without any accountability.
?
Way too complicated
I honestly don't believe anyone who says the government isn't trampling freedoms when it's convenient 24/7
Maybe being vetted by an agency would be appropriate but to have them initiate it seems archaic
Consult more people than government and law enforcement agencies...
Further clarify "Proper administration of government" so that it's clear for what reasons a registration can be cancelled or suspended under this reason.
Are you saying that ONLY law enforcement agencies can make complaints? That is a pathetic crime-harboring mentality designed only to lessen the amount of investment needed in domain compliance, as law enforcement agencies simply do not make requests often enough and the amount of red tape necessary to make such a request tips the scales firmly in favour of offending registrants/other criminals.
The request must be accompanied with a court order. Without that it is unjustified because the domain is a property of the registrant and likely to be their livelihood. The crime prevention authority of the govt agencies must not include taking over private property without the judicial system involved.

<p>The recent grab for power is disgusting.</p> <p>Eg hand over all private keys.</p> <p>They already have too much power. The balance needs to go the other way.</p>
<p>Remove all interference by law enforcement agencies and especially intelligence agencies in the administration of Australian domains.</p>
<p>There was not a “don’t know” choice.</p> <p>Your explanation it too vague to provide an informed comment.</p>
<p>That list would pretty much catch anything! It doesn’t protect registrants from over-zealous law enforcement at all. Is there a process for challenging frivolous takedown requests?</p>
<p>Use the same rules as .com</p> <p>auDA are NOT the Police, Fair Trading, the ACCC or a Court</p>
<p>More than one of those criteria</p>
<p>To own an AU account you must have an Aussie Drivers Licence or Shooters Licence AS WELL as an Aussie ABN and Aussie Bank account because the latter two are too easy to get from frauds overseas.</p>
<p>Start by making this survey clearer in fewer words.</p>
<p>Your definition of person is:</p> <p>Person</p> <p>means:</p> <p>(1)a Commonwealth, State or Territory Minister;(2)</p> <p>a Commonwealth, State or Territory statutory authority;(3)</p> <p>a Commonwealth entity;(4)</p> <p>an Australian company;(5)</p>

<p>a Registrable Body;(6)</p> <p>an Incorporated association;</p> <p>(7)an Indigenous corporation;</p> <p>(8)a Registered Organisation under the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009(Cth);</p> <p>(9)an Incorporated limited partnership under State or Territory legislation;</p> <p>(10)a Cooperative under State or Territory legislation, and which appears on the State or Territory register of cooperatives; or</p> <p>(11)a Natural Person who is 18 years or older.</p> <p>Ask yourselves firstly what's missing from this list. A clue to answering that question is the order you've used, but let's start at the end of the list. You've left out all the under-18s, so then you haven't even thought about families, let alone the sorts of peer groups that individuals of whatever age get involved in. You will not get this right until you do!</p>
<p>a balance irrelevant .. a right of privacy is key</p>
<p>Governments of today are breaching the UN treaties and accords they are signatories to in making their own laws, let alone forcing others (like yourselves) to make it easier for them to get our information.</p>
<p>They should have to get a court order to be able to look at any persons, or business information.</p>
<p>Court orders only, please. Have the relevant agency apply to a court so that their evidence can be tested.</p>
<p>Seems like too much red tape. Perhaps a checklist that allows a registrar to determine if it falls into the above categories would be more appropriate (this would include due diligence in determining the origin of the request). If the request didn't meet the criteria then it is referred to an enforcement/intelligence agency for review.</p>
<p>More transparency</p>
<p>Not enough information of the public interest objectives and how they impact the decision of whether a domain name is cancelled or suspended.</p>
<p>'Public health and safety' - could be anything, such as valid anti-vax discussions?</p>

'The economic wellbeing of Australia' - could be anything, such as negative reviews of travelling of moving to Australia?
'National security' - ripe for big brother creep, such as say unpopular but valid criticism of immigration being deemed 'hateful' and inflammatory?
Too hard to tell - these headings leave a lot in the "undefined" space. There are no representatives of registrant interests in this list - all are judicial or governmental interests.
Some terms sound too far-reaching.
They must be more concretely defined, as it sounds like right now govt can justify whimsical decisions (or hide embarrassment or, truth) through terms 1, 4, 6 and 7.
Some of these are vague, what is the economic wellbeing of Australia? They should be approved specific requests only.
Too broad A government could simply claim that a site/domain impinges it's ability to run government just because it doesn't like the political content of a website.
Rubbish!
I think a court process should be involved. Registrants should have the right to defend themselves against the accusations without having their domain resolution broken until proven guilty.
The public interest isn't being served by restricting access to domain names in .com.au or .net.au where there may be an organisation with availability or use of .gov.au address. For example, Doug Harris Architects should be able to register and use dha.com.au regardless of the existence of Defence Housing Australia who are using (and should be using) dha.gov.au
Especially when a commercial applicant has been using the domain name for an extended period.
Allow free internet use and ensure that any .au domains that have financial transactions involved are sent to Australian bank accounts only.
Any websites that are committing fraud should be reported to the AFP before removal.
Don't censor our connections to other countries domains either
"The economic wellbeing of Australia" seems like a badge and broad rule that can serve as a catch all. Need more specific rules to ensure that the individual/business rights are not stifled

Requests should also be able to be made by individuals if they present good evidence at the time.
How will this be governed and made public
Some of these are too broad. You need to show someone has done something wrong, not just that it's in the interest of the 'economic wellbeing of Australia' or 'national security'.
These are far too easy to be twisted.
The "economic well-being" item sounds very loose.
Start by making this survey clearer in fewer words.
The question is not clear enough for me to select yes. It sounds straight forward, but what specific cases have required this action? What recourse does a registrant have if they believe the request is unfair?
Would like to have another option for this question. Please consider this 'no' answer as 'unsure'.
If I no longer wish to use/own a domain name, I should just be able to cancel it at any stage. A different solution could be to have auDA maintain logging of what entity owned which domain name at any particular time period, instead of making it harder to cancel them when they're no longer desired.
There should be a widely publicised way to report spam or inappropriate websites to an authority which then has the power to investigate and suspend or remove the domain involved
Better checks and balances are needed so you're not simply the government's minion.
What does "The proper administration of government" mean in relation to domain names?
What about a domain name misrepresenting something?
What mechanisms are there to quickly suspend a domain?
- I'm not sure what you mean by "the judicial system" as an objective.
- "The integrity, stability or security of the Domain Name System" seems like something auDA should be looking after, and information pertaining to same should be passed to auDA to make judgements on, not orders passed from law enforcement or intelligence agencies.
- "the economic wellbeing of Australia" is far too vague to base anything on, and economics is a field where any 10 experts will give you 11 opinions on the effect of any particular action. Minimum.
The bottom line is the more rules that are in place the more people will migrate to other extensions. This will ultimately make the com.au space irrelevant.

Too easy for them to get info. Legitimate interests, not easy categories.
Explain any of that much better, sounds like a lot of bullshit positive words (H&S, security, protection, wellbeing) while the true motivation stays hidden
“The proper administration of government “ is too vague and doesn’t sound like it should be the responsibility of registrants. “The judicial system “ seems redundant and vague.
It heavily favours government over citizens and has a chilling effect on free speech. The burden of proof is far too low and the level of validation is worthless.
This seems to be a ridiculously over the top reaction. Anyone should be able to apply for a review of a domain names validity and the user should be able to easily show their right to it. An appeal process will need to be in place but for simple .au domains it shouldn’t require enforcement agencies to be involved. For .org or .gov domains, tighter restrictions should apply.
Didn't want to just say yes, current system is open to abuse - see answer to question 1. But, suspect will need some tweaking in this area to get balance correct
For request details to be public
It's too convoluted, have to get a law enforcement agency to raise the request
The cancellation and suspension of a domain name should ONLY happen if the registrant commits a crime. I support bringing in new laws to define more anti-consumer behaviour as crimes, but registrant fault is a key element, and registrants must be provided with an exhaustive list of crimes to avoid committing.
Open the .au to all Australians and remove the upper level domains such as .net .com .org etc and standardise like the Canadian brand .ca
The criteria are so vague they are useless.
keep the govt out of it
Public reporting needs to be encouraged. Many people won't bother reporting to police etc as police simply ignore 98% of summary reporting, or reports that don't affect a Government agency.
Way too board of ways that a domain name can be taken down specially with national security
Extreme transparency over the application of the public interest test so that we don't get the usual use of "national security" to justify anything that the security agencies and others don't like.
There should be criteria to protect brand owners and clear scope for addressing phishing scams and other types of fraud. In fact on this second point registrars should be required to suspend a domain name where there is a clear issue of fraudulent activity.

There's not enough information provided to determine whether there is a fair balance or not. There seems to be no provision for protection of individual expression or freedom of speech.
Domain is a property, like any other physical item, and confiscation of a property has a very limited grounds, the same applies to domains, otherwise there's no free internet.
The list as presented sounds broad enough to cover all law enforcement requests, so seems like a fig leaf.  Who determines whether the public interest reason provided by the law enforcement agency is actually valid? Are those decisions made public? Is there a means to appeal those decisions? Without that, there is no way to evaluate whether the public interest is actually being protected.
There are additional considerations that need to be on the list. Such as freedom of speech, privacy, and consideration of freedom of the press.  The current list could allow the discrimination of something that has unpopular views and action being able to be taken purely on it being unpopular on not mainstream.  In addition fake news and credibility need to be considered.
The judicial system should have zero rights over the Internet, they inherently are about and used to enforce private or government interests in ways that are against the internet's findings.
The ability to block access to public discourse is toxic and leveraged far to readily by governments of the day remove consumer protection
Strictly enforce rules to abolish political interference from the likes of the corrupt and criminal LNP with acts like the fake getup website they launched. They need to be shut down without complaint.
Without more detail on how this public interest test works, a simple yes/no answer is simplistic and not possible. This isn't properly designed. The question does not possibly provide enough detail for the average person to possibly know with any certainty whether the right balance has been struck or, for that matter, how the new rules differ in practical terms from the old ones. Your explanation is too high-level and vague for most people to understand how they differ from the previous regime. This survey is seriously flawed and its results will not be reliable as a result as many will abandon it at this point as their answer will be "I don't know".
i dont understand the question
These criteria are very broad and lack independent oversight
Less high bar for cancellation or suspension. Wider variety of agencies able to request suspension. Law enforcement lacks the resources to adequately police this.

Drop all .au extensions completely
Should only be decided by judicial system.
More or less reverse the list.
The integrity, stability or security of the Domain Name system
Complying with Australia's obligations under international law
The economic wellbeing of Australia
Consumer protection
The prevention and detection of crime and fraud
Public health and safety
The judicial system
National security
The proper administration of government
raising barriers to entry for young startups is the opposite of what Australia needs to compete with the world.
Simply restricting requests to "enforcement or intelligence agencies" and having "public interest objectives" is not enough. There needs to be a public interest test for privacy, freedom of communication, freedom of assembly, etc by an entity that can weigh in on these potential negative impacts on the public and/or target caused by the request.
It's easy to buy a .com domain and painful to register a .com.au - just make it simple please.
National security is being used in a very broad sense. Why isn't the law enforcement agency required to make their case before a judge and that auDA only acts upon a court order?
Restrictions should not include subjective measures that leave the namespace open to bureaucratic abuse. Acceptable restrictions should rely on warrants or court orders only. Civil complaints like trademark infringement should rely on a dispute resolution process heard by an independent arbitrator.
such requests must be made not by government agencies but by courts after proper scrutiny in a public process

As I read this question states that requests to cancel or suspend the domain can only be made by a government or enforcement entity which begs me to ask the question what if the domain owner wants to remove their own domain? Which is why I have answered no for this question.
enforcement agency, is too vague because every government agency is an enforcement agency including local government.
The request should meet 2 or more of the criteria, the concepts are too general already over lap each other
Allow private whois for individuals
"The integrity, stability or security of the Domain Name system"
This is way too vague, and simply a matter of opinion, not law.
I can't understand what you are doing. Question is not clear
I don't know. I just picked no because I don't know the answer to this question as I don't know the details of what you do and don't do thoroughly
This doesn't actually give enough information for eliciting useful feedback.
AuDA should require a court order so there is proper judicial oversight.
This rule enables government agencies to close down any domain name that they disapprove of. Eg. If a domain is exposing government corruption (which is in the public's interest) it could be closed due to an agency claiming "proper administration of government"
We live in an absurd police state.
Meet more than one. Should meet MOST of the criteria or at least be neutral.
Less power to government to censor Australians
The integrity, stability or security of the Domain Name system
A private entity has no requirement to serve the public interest. No action should be taken without a warrant. No second guessing by auDA what is or is not in the public interest.
There is too much 'mob justice' mentality in Australia. These changes will almost certainly result in unfair treatment of people using .au domains in cases where they are hosting content which may be controversial but not break the law.
There is not enough information here to answer this yes or no. I feel like this is not a well designed question and is leading people to the answer you are after.
Stop being cops.
Clear guidelines. Ambiguous objectives leave room for misinterpretation.

I don't see enough information here to decide on the balance. e.g. what constitutes a risk to the economic wellbeing of the country?
Also, "The judicial system" isn't an objective.
I would like to see more done to protect an individual ie, in cases of bullying or sexually explicit photos being displayed without consent.
"National security" could be used as a blanket reason for suspension without due process or possibility for appeal. There needs to be due process in all cases and intelligence agencies should not be given a short cut.
All about the checks and balances to ensure there isn't abuse of these powers. The presumption of trust is problematic (unfortunately).
Any owner of a .au domain name should have authority to shut it down
National Security is a meaningless term that is used as a catchall for anything the Government disapproves of. Law enforcement and Intelligence agencies can and will call national security at any opportunity to curtail the freedoms of Australians.
Seems overly broad. For example what does the economic interest of Australia even mean? Just say you need an act of parliament and a court order and stop trying to do their job for them.
Maybe I'm not aware of the details but "The economic wellbeing of Australia" sounds like it could become a vague catch-all for problematic cancellations.
Depends how difficult and complex it is to get an enforcement agency to assist in a legitimate case
Vague labels such as "national security" are a catch all for lazy bureaucracy.
requests (and the result of them) should be 100% open and public
Given the government's mismanagement and lack of understanding of how the internet works, what an open internet means, and recent laws passed which i would consider draconian in this space, i argue that "proper administration of government" is too broad. If services hosted on a particular domain are in dissent of government objectives this leaves them a broad stroke to control what's registered and hosted.
There should be no obligation to comply to international law and it is unclear what international law this context is referring to. Note that the definition of "international law" can be very vague here.
The definition of judicial system and government shall be specified as australia judicial system and australia government only.
"The economic wellbeing of Australia" is very vague, and be rephased or removed.

<p>"The integrity, stability or security of the Domain Name system" shall be australia system only.</p>
<p>The tests are too subjective, and at the moment minorities are getting heard and their interests are not in Australia's wider interest, but are being seen that way due to 'noise'.</p>
<p>These are not valid reasons:</p> <p>The proper administration of government</p> <p>Public health and safety</p> <p>National security</p> <p>The prevention and detection of crime and fraud</p> <p>The economic wellbeing of Australia</p> <p>As they are arbitrary, subjective, and very often wrongly ascertained.</p>
<p>Little. It's Federal legislation that is the problem.</p>
<p>I have searched this site and cannot find anywhere that directs me to the specific changes, what the previous policy was and what is proposed so I am unable to affirm an answer of yes.</p>
<p>Cancellation of domain name is not good. You can negotiate with the owner of the domain and company. Why should regulators interfere so much with company domain names or even company name names?</p> <p>If while registering the domain is not allowed then okay but after business acquiring domain then face cancellation is not good ethics.</p>
<p>The community needs to protect themselves. This can be done through education rather than over policing the namespace.</p>
<p>A few issues.</p> <p>1) "Enforcement or intelligence agency" is not defined and could potentially be very broad. Does this include local government? anti discrimination boards? Preferably this should state that it is by court order or by request from the attorney general.</p>

2) The list of public interests is very broad allowing or just about any complaint. For example - "the site is causing anxiety in people"
3) no dispute resolution process or cooling off period is specified.
Better protection for small business against domain squatters.
Better protection for small business against international brands and copyright claims initiated from non Au based copyrights.
Improved resolution of suspending domains of convicted fraudsters
The problem is that government can not be trusted to use these powers properly.
There needs to be more balance between the community and the individual.
auda have been cancelling domains overstepping your own powers
There must be a judicial process to access anything.
A business who trades both in and outside Australia effectively must have two websites, one gained through ABN/ACN recognition and one for the rest of the world
It seems rather broad and open ended. I assume there are specifics that define boundaries?
Domain names need to focus on the Registry compliance, and get strict with over charging etc, the people should be able to register a .com.au and hold it for ten years if they want too, a domain name does not need compliance when purchased. Once a web site is built then it's up to the the owner to have compliance with their own site. All you will do is drive the .com.au out of the market and make it less valuable, A domain name is a digital asset, A brand is your trade mark, it you want to secure your brand then go and buy the .com.au, just because you have a brand you should not be entitled to the .com.au.
Stay away from it. You will make it worse.
The reasons above are wishy washy they're great headline concepts but they need to be explained more so people understand them. It appears by reading them all that they are largely in place for government and their agencies to control things and not so much about consumers. As an owner of many domains the owneship of domain names is not a issue for virtually 99.9% of people online, this is anon-issue that you are tryimg to make an issue out of.
The au domain just seems to be a money making scheme to ensure all .com.au domains buy another domain
Judicial review, and an appeals process so that vexatious action by law enforcement or intelligence personnel doesn't have unwarranted detrimental effect on Australian business and consumers. The suspension could happen with a warrant issued by a judge immediately, but the remainder of the musical process should be held in open court, not

<p>through secretive process.</p> <p>Domains affected by such requests should be locked for a minimum period of 1 and perhaps as much as 7 years to ensure the appeals process has time to be effective, regardless of if an appeal has been made or not. This will also help to protect against inappropriate directives to have domains cancelled by corrupt agency personnel, since a 7 year lockout would make this an unattractive avenue for domain takeovers through bribes by commercial operators to corrupt agency officials.</p>
<p>The Economic wellbeing clause is SERIOUSLY open to misuse. Our govt has repeatedly demonstrated itself to be highly malleable to the interests of large companies over citizens and this clause would be easily used to continue this.</p>
<p>Business should be able to make a complaint especially where someone use of a domain name impinges on the name ownership by a legitimate other business</p>
<p>Can not answer this question.</p>
<p>This survey says nothing about what the rules are, it only mentions the objectives.</p>
<p>The government call anything National Security. There needs to be strong controls in place to prevent this being abused by government for silencing if voices they don't like.</p>
<p>Just open it up. Most of us go with a .com address anyway instead of paying stupidly excessive fees.</p>
<p>I don't think a simple request from law enforcement or intelligence is enough. It should be accompanied by something similar to a search warrant issued by a judge. It will afford better protection of rights and reduce possibility of abuse of power.</p>
<p>aside from criminal behaviour, you need to uphold freedom of expression and not pander to other interests.</p>
<p>Government can use the phrases you've provided in any context. It's not the business of AUDA to be cancelling domain names.</p>
<p>Government should be required to obtain a judicial warrant to cancel or remove access to someone's domain name.</p>
<p>Take out government and national security entirely.</p>
<p>Once you start making "ease of use" concessions to government agencies it's a slippery slope that has no end.</p>
<p>Greater transparency in auDA policymaking and decision-making would add to user (registry, registrar, registrant, web user/consumer) confidence in .au</p>
<p>Too restrictive for the person who registered a name</p>
<p>The economic wellbeing of Australia - Undefined and broad.</p>

<p>Complying with Australia's obligations under international law - Drop. This will be open to abuse. All adjudications should be local. If Australian can administer their own name space, without foreign influence, what is the point. Other countries are far more restrictive.</p>
<p>Scope creep is inevitable, and there are far too many groups ready to raise objections on dubious grounds already</p>
<p>"National security" is a frequently used excuse of governments worldwide to quietly silence opposing voices. The drastic action of taking away the online voice of an organization should only be used in cases where there is a clear and obvious reason, obvious to all - not just because some shady govt branch says "national security reasons, it's classified".</p> <p>If such requests are ever accepted with no further details - it is absolutely essential that this process is as public and transparent as possible.</p> <p>"The economic wellbeing of Australia" is also an incredibly poor and shabby excuse. Any web content supposedly compromising the economic wellbeing while not actually violating any laws, thus falling under "prevention of crime", has no reason to be taken down - this is instead simply suppression of freedom of speech, and another method for government to simply get rid of things they don't like. Australia's economic wellbeing is the responsibility of government and business to create, not the responsibility of internet regulators to police. This is</p>
<p>Take the feedback of business owners.</p>
<p>It's not what restrictions and safeguards are applied. It's about how they are applied. For example, in China the Government restricts use and access to the Internet, without explain why other than the action is in the best interests of China and its people. Often the people do not even know restrictions have been applied so they can't hudge if those restrictions are fair and reasonable in the public interest. Refusing or restricting domain names is just one way of blocking information from getting onto the Internet.</p>

### 3. Sub-domains

Registrants can create sub-domains of their .au domain registration.

e.g. as the registrant of *forexample.com.au* you can create **subdomain**.*forexample.com.au*.

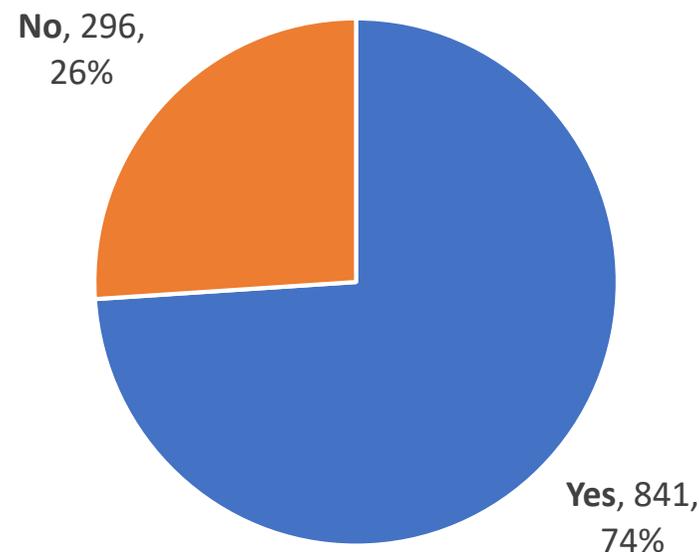
Currently when auDA is aware of a subdomain of a .au domain being used against the rules or unlawfully, auDA can only take action based on the eligibility of the registrant of the parent domain.

If they are eligible to hold it, auDA has no power to take any action to stop the use of the sub- domain.

The new rules ensure sub-domains must comply with the same rules as the .au domains they're attached to, meaning auDA can suspend or cancel a domain when a sub-domain is in breach of the rules.

e.g shoes.*forexample.com.au* is used for fraudulent activity, so auDA can cancel *forexample.com.au*

**Should auDA have the right to suspend or cancel a .au domain name because of activity conducted on sub-domains created under it?**



If “No”: How should auDA take action on sub-domains of .au domains which break the rules or facilitate unlawful activity?

<p>The sub-domain may have been created without the authority of the registrant, for example it is compromised.</p> <p>auDA should consult with the registrant first, to give them the option to remove work with auDA to get the unlawful domain removed first.</p> <p>This of course if this is already no the process.</p>
<p>Contact the owner and tell them to shutdown the service. Only after you have provided sufficient warning should you take action.</p>
<p>Consult and verify with the business owners first to validate if they are using sub-domains of their .au.</p>
<p>"If they are eligible to hold it" , auDA should take no action.</p>
<p>Not AUDA remit. Law enforcements job.</p>
<p>Warning, Dept Fair trading, fines</p>
<p>In the event of unlawful activity occurring the existing processes should be followed, but in any other circumstance auDA certainly SHOULD NOT have the authority to force specific uses of subdomains. We must have the ability to rapidly monetise them or use them for whatever lawful purpose we choose. The rules pertaining to the root domain are entirely sufficient for the identification of parties responsible for activity under their subdomains. AuDA attempting to assert further powers not shown necessary is a shocking overreach of their authority!</p>
<p>It depends on the business area of the parent domain as well as why there was fraudulent activity on a subdomain.</p> <p>I.e. a business with cdn.business.com.au serving content for their services *should* be completely in control.</p> <p>However a wordpress style site, which hosts user content on subdomains is not directly responsible for the content present. In this situation the approach should be to contact the parent domain owner and inform them of the issues on the subdomain, working with them to a solution.</p> <p>Similarly a domain owner could have little warning of activity on a subdomain if their dns is hacked/hijacked/infiltrated and a 3rd party is serving content off a subdomain without their knowledge</p> <p>Request owners of domain to take action through relevant CERT advisory.</p>

It should not be the business of AUDA to take action without a court order.
Is there a need for this? If the best example you can provide is that "shoes.forexample.com.au is used for fraudulent activity" then I don't think this power is needed.
suspend = yes, cancel = no
Restrict access to the subdomain only. E.g. At DNS level
define unlawful.
Promoting euthanasia, studies and legal protests?
Providing euthanasia material.
Sharing stories of criminals who experienced family member who resurched or used euthanasia materials, for end of life care?
Studies on canabonoids relating to child hood epilepsy.
Listing drs who prescribe for epilepsy.
Alternate methods of sourcing life saving medical supplies as beuracracy is too slow and your child is in need.
Harm causing sites absolutely ; ie child abuse and trafficking.
Unlawful should of course result in a takedown. But rules.... really? It's a domain name... not a business registration.
Cancel sub domains inatead
If the registrant is eligible to hold the domain then that should be the extent of auDA involvement. Sub domains should be taken into account
See my notes on judicial review and lockout instead of outright cancellation from my previous answer.
Who is behind auda? There are sinister motives at play.
Contact Hosting provider of subdomain to disable subdomain website.
It's google that needs to take action here. If a company or person is doing the wrong thing, and AUDA shut them down they will just go and register. .com or .club enjoy c and do it again
shutdown the sub domain

It should not
Suspend the sub domain only
Make rules to ensure sub domain users can be held responsible directly.
Owner of parent domain should be contacted and advised them give. The opportunity to resolve the issue before the domain is cancelled.
Consultation with the domain name holder and direction to cancel the subdomain. Eg: myshoppingapp.com.au has two subdomains: fraud.myshoppingapp.com.au and legit.myshoppingapp.com.au - if fraud breaks the law then cancellation of the parent domain would greatly affect the business of legit. Having control to cancel a specific subdomain would allow honest businesses to not be affected by their online neighbour's activity.
Technology is there to gather IP addresses therefore it should be simple enough to locate the sub domain and take action against those using it
Fair trading, courts and Law enforcement can NOT auDA
With question 1 the eligibility of a registrant to own the domain has been addressed. Now giving auDA power over the subdomains is not the right solution to prevent law breaking. Same reasons as the previous question, the cancelling of the domain should not happen without the judicial system involved.
For a business that hosts content for different customers under different sub domains, this could be problematic. There needs to be a warning and appeal system so that a businesses other customers aren't impacted by the actions of one customer, and there is less scope for a malicious or unhappy customer to damage a business
Suspend or cancel only after ensuring the actual domain owner is responsible & aware of the sub domain ie not being used by a web developer & unknown to the domain owner
This is an example of guilty until proven innocent and hurts the domain holder. A suspension is understandable, a cancellation should only occur if it has been proven that the domain holder is aware and adding in the illegal action.
If they are not, they should be informed that their site is being used for illegal means, ex: hackers, bots, malicious code being used to create sub-domains against the domain holders will.
Court should decide, not a potentially biased organisation
First point of call is to contact the registrant of the domain. If there is no action at that point court action on the criminal activity should then be directed towards the domain registrant (or sub-domain registrant).
A court should have the power to order the de-registration, or other penalties
This should be left for the courts to decide.

Need to clarify what the unlawful activity is. I would expect the .au domain to be suspended.
.com.au
.org.au
.edu.au
Are all regulated.
You shouldn't have the right. Leave the law to the police. You're overstepping the mark with how important you think you are
First get the subdomain fixed and only uncooperative domains should be cancelled.
through normal legal enforcement channels... I.e. the police.
They shouldn't it is a TLD - up to the registrant to use it how they like.
Enforce removal of sub domain from name servers
I believe auDA should have the ability to cancel a domain, if a sub-domain is being used for fraudulent activity, but only after 3 complaints have been made to the registrar. I believe the onus should be on the registrar, and that if a complaint is made it should be handled between the registrant and the registrar.
Suspension of main domain until rectified.
There are already laws in place to prevent a business or individual from appropriating something which is not theirs. Copyright, trademark and other laws cover this. Considering that the business needs a foothold to register the TLD, any incidence of breaking laws in this regard will very likely be enforceable. We should rely on these laws.
If it's unlawful, then a police or court order should allow for the domain to be suspended. If it's just rule breaking, then several warnings before eventual action is ok. It just depends what the "rules" are.
Legal action
Disable the subdomain
Would this not come under the Public Interest Test? I think that auDA should be able to suspend the domain, not cancel the domain unless the registrant is not an Australian citizen/valid holder.
A fine, our demerit system before suspension.
Arguable. If an ISP for example is offering public webspace for users, eg as joe.myisp.net.au rather than myisp.net.au/~joe then I'd argue in that case it's an internal issue for the management of the organization. If they are

deliberately using subdomains to flout auDA policy, then I guess it's a different story, but when there's no connection between the two parties it's hard to penalize the primary.
Cancel only the subdomain and issue the strongest possible warning to the domain registrant for first breach. Second breach results in temporary suspension of registration. Third and subsequent or particularly severe breaches result in cancellation of registration and financial penalty.
When businesses create domains make them aware of further risks and rules. Whatever the law Please do inform the business owner so that they can adhere to the rules. No cancellation should be done by regulators. If law is broken penalize the owners but negotiate first
Action against the top domain should only be taken if they refuse to comply with removing fraudulent sub domains.
yes
When a domain is assigned, it belongs to the domain owner. Subdomains are irrelevant.
auDA should rely on the decision of the courts
Do nothing. Allow a valid court order to be issued to the owner of the parent zone. If they are in breach of that, then you will be given a valid court order.
If Peter Dutton gets his knickers in a twist over a domain name, tough titties!
Firstly, it would be a very rare case, and would have to be 'extreme hatred or malace' only (not just offense taken as that's subjective), and there should be a suspension of the domain before cancellation, but only after repeated warnings over time. This should never be a less than a two-four week decision.
Contact the registrant who is responsible for the parent domain name. Other agencies have the means to deal with any unlawful activities.
Yes, but it would depend on the severity of the breach.
Subdomains are the property of the registrant. This does not need to be regulated! Why treat subdomains differently to hostnames?
Refer the owner to AFP if breaking the law?
They should advise the registered owner and have them deal with the matter. Many domain names are registered by developers working on behalf of other clients, hosting companies or other third party/arms length arrangements. It's not auda's role to get involved in those contractual arrangements, or cancel an upper level name which may impact other innocent sibling domains.
If the main .au domain is legit then Take action on the sub-domain only.
"yes, but.. these cancellations due to breaches should be 100% open and public"

Check in with the primary domain name holder. Suspend the sub domain
Investigate whether the sub-domain is in fact directly owned by the registrant before suspension or cancelation of the parent domain. Contact the registrant to advise of the breach and give them an opportunity to rectify the breach. Suspension or cancelation of the parent domain should only be used as a last resort to offer a level of protection to service providers that use sub-domains on their parent domain for clients
Punish the specific party responsible for the subdomain (may be the same)
As a first point of call, auDA should take action against the sub-domain only. If there is unlawful activity on all or a majority of sub-domains, then action could be taken against the domain itself.
Seems overly punitive. At least give the holder a chance to remedy the situation first.
It shouldn't. Action should be taken against those operating the illegal subdomain, or against those facilitating its operation (such as hosting services and ISPs).
Pointer records could be used to invalidate the NS records of the sub domain. A sub domain could also have a sub domain, the list goes on and registrant of the .au may have lawfully delegated a subdomain to someone who is then using a further subdomain. Whilst this should be investigated and rectified I see no reason why the registrant of the initial .au should have their domain revoked especially without any form of correspondence allowing them to take preventative measures and rectify themselves. It would be like revoking a whole high rise commercial office based upon the actions of on of tenants.
Updated based upon the next question which informed me about sub leasing. Regardless, yes it could be revoked however I believe correspondence prior is key.
Just shit down that fraudulent page only.
Cease and desist the use of the sub domain, especially if the sub domain is used to host a different website to the parent domain.
My reason is that in some cases, the inappropriate use of the sub domain may be accidental or non intentional (eg a marketing team running a competition that is isolated from the parent brand) and suspending the parent domain is a gross over reaction.
Give the owner the opportunity to take action on the subdomain.
This is especially important for domains in the public suffix list, <a href="https://wiki.mozilla.org/Public_Suffix_List">https://wiki.mozilla.org/Public_Suffix_List</a>
Notify the hosting company to remove or void the subdomain.
Report it to relevant authorities eg. police, ASIC.

It needs to remain clear that a domain and a subdomain are two different things
Association between the sub and domain needs to be established
It shouldn't. It's none of Auda's business.
The should be the rights of a domain holder to have any subdomain name of their choosing. The verification and enforcement of domains should stop at the parent (second or third depending)
There should be exception to this in the case of illegal criminal activity but not civil activity.
Suspend the sub domain
Not sure, but I don't think cancelling the entire domain is fair
My answer here is essentially yes to the question but with caveats, but you don't allow additional notes for positive answers. This is a badly designed survey. There are circumstances where it would not be right to take such drastic action against the domain holder, this would need to be handled carefully.
Matter for the courts
Take action against the subdomain it may have been created illegally or without consent. You can't destroy someone's legitimate business over their unauthorised actions of a hacker
The sub domain is the fraudulent entity and should be investigated and closed down. This would negate disgruntled employees creating sub domains in an attempt to collapse a domain.
It's not auDA's job to police how sub-domains are used by individuals or businesses.
After a warning the ability to cancel a domain should be possible, although consideration should be taken into account for services where sub domains are used to host client/customer websites. As an example Wordpress.com
Breaches should be forced to add not a registered au site.
This should be referred to law enforcement, or the domain registrant should be given a chance to remove the offending content first before action is taken
This is absurd. Why would anybody bother with a .au domain with these draconian rules?
Shouldn't be Auda making the legal call
Refusal to renew unlawful domains but only after due process. Heavy handed approaches by some governments have made suspension appear to be censorship in some cases.
Reporting mechanism to the AFP. auDA is not law enforcement, unlawful activity is for law enforcement to enforce. legislation changes should also be made.
Send warning to the domain holder and possibly take action by way of dns removal of the sub domain

Warning provided to the main domain registrant. If they have created a sub domain and are allowing someone else to manage it, they have the opportunity themselves to de-register it. If there is no action within a set period of time, THEN deregister.
1. Work with the parent domain first to remove the offending sub-domain.  2. If the parent domain does nothing to remedy the problem then the parent domain can be suspended but never canceled or deleted.  The suspension will cause enough issues with the parent domain and will take the offending sub-domain offline as well.
Address it to the legal system knowing who the main domain owner is.
Only on court orders.
Request owner of TLD to handle.
Refer to relevant body ie accc police etc. If a law is broken
Too many enforcement levels.
yes
Subdomains can be easily created by hacked hosting control panels of cloudflare / DNS accounts. NO.
Contact the owner of the .au domain and ask to rectify the situation before any action is taken to suspend or cancel the .au domain.
It should not be possible to cancel an entire schools sector because of the behaviour of one school. AuDA should look at the corporate structure of the entity, not just the format or delegation of the domain name. Mere fraudulent activity should not be enough, as hacking of a server may mean the domain holder has no intent to defraud; there should be a test (offhand, "reasonable suspicion") of intent or a test of recklessness (for when the server owner doesn't repair the hacking).
AuDA should be able to suspend the sub domain only.
A warning first then cancellation if the activity continues.
build a fraud list warn customers, like google safe browsing. Cancel a domain is so rude.
"shoes" is a poor example. Please define "unlawful activity" from the sub domain.
Warranty check
Try it and auDA will be sued.

Leasing of Domain Names is a protected legal right
Class 46 of Commonwealth IP law
They should take action against the unlawful activity directly, if it is within their jurisdiction
notify the domain registrant of problem, only cancel domain if they fail to suspend/cancel the sub-domain in a timely manner
This question confuses me. I have had to read the page several times just to understand what it is talking about, then the question doesn't seem to relate the way I thought the information was explaining. But if you're asking whether the owner of a .com.au should lose their whole site because of a non compliant subdomain that they have then no, just the subdomain should be cancelled.
Report it to the hosting provider as you would for any illegal content.
Define unlawful. Go to court. Get an order to bring out the details of the subdomain holder and call them. Tell them what law is being broken and that an investigation is being conducted. Record all communications, conduct professionally, negotiate a change that facilitates 'more lawful' use of the service. Be reasonable.
Report to the correct authority. auDA should not have authority to make decisions on what they deem to be criminal, that's beyond their authority.
Contact the domain owner. If problems persist, the government will make a decision if it needs blocking.
The sub domain should be able to be suspended but the main domain may not be aware of what the sub domain is up to so they should have the opportunity to address issues before they are suspended or cancelled.
there should be a three strike type of rule, that first offenders can't automatically have the parent domain restricted, but repeat offenders can have it disabled.
Cancel or suspend only the subdomain. In case of breaches on multiple occasions (eg 4 or more) on subdomains then the domain has all subdomains suspended or cancelled.
Grant auDA the power to take action to stop the sub- domain directly, issuing a notification to revoke the sub-domain to the parent domain
auda should only be involved in preventing illegal activity, not manipulating content. If a court order or warrant requires auDA to suspend the parent then they can still do so without extending their powers to irrelevant areas
You're a domain seller not an enforcement agency.
Again, this can be an option, but there needs to be consideration of the negative impact of the suspension or cancellation. Just having the ability, without oversight of this ability, is too much power for auDA.
Such matters must be registrar's responsibility. Public is intelligent enough to understand the sub domains. This is over regulations. What happen when there is a sub of a subdomain. Eg xxx.xxx.forexample.com.au

<p>By prosecuting the unlawful activity.</p> <p>You don't disconnect all Queensland phones starting with 07.. if someone in Queensland uses a single phone number to commit a crime.</p> <p>If you are serious about cancelling a top-level domain you have locked Australia out of being a player in offering any number of software services. This may be a moot issue, people will just use a .com or .net domain. Our Australian software company doesn't even bother to register a .au</p> <p>So if I had a competitor offering a service on mycompany.com.au I could destroy their business by signing up for badactor.mycompany.com.au and doing something bad.</p> <p>Wow.</p>
<p>Unlawful? Prosecute the business. If a sub-doma</p>
<p>It should punish the offender the same way as you punish the person who rented the building not the person who owns the building.</p>
<p>If the owner of the domain obstructs the proper identification of the offender, that would be a separate issue.</p>
<p>removal in the same vein as DMCA safe harbour laws</p>
<p>None</p>
<p>This is too broad of an example. A domain name should not be suspended/cancelled on the basis of a single subdomain.</p>
<p>You should have no authority to act on a sub domain</p>
<p>Suspend the sub domain.</p>
<p>If a domain repeatedly creates subdomains that cause issues, consider further action.</p>
<p>There should not be any .au domains in the first place</p>
<p>Get processes in place to action against the subdomain only not the parent domain.</p>
<p>TLD owner should be contacted/informed and law enforcement should be notified. Just like companies such as Facebook, are not liable for illegal activity conducted on their website, domain service providers should not be held liable either. They should only be liable if they do not take action at the direction law enforcement.</p>

Tackle sub domains first. I assume certain sub domains may be administrated by different individuals than the owners of the overall domain. Require that sub domain to be taken down, issue a 'first and only warning' message and monitor the page. If a repeat happens, then page comes down
Alert the domain holder of the issue
Only if action isn't taken after verified communication with the primary domain owner
I would like to see examples of any such "illegal activity" before I could make comment. Frankly, I doubt it would happen much and as such I think powers should be limited.
Consult with domain owner prior to decision making relating to suspension or cancellation.
Allow the owner of the parent domain time to take action themselves.
Have the person responsible for the parent domain block access to the sub domain.
Unlawful activity should be handled by the police, not by auDA
It needs to follow the same steps laid out in q2. Even though they are sub-domains, treat them as an Australia TLD entity and you only have one set of rules to deal with.
Suspend the subdomain rather than the parent domain.
Unlawful activity should be investigated by the appropriate authority (police, ACCC, Crime Commission, etc) and action to close
Yes you should take action but there also needs to be an appeals process readily available
The owner of the domain should be held completely responsible for the activities therein and after three warnings per incident per subdomain of the domain owner does not comply, their whole domain is suspended. Fraudulent.akamai.net.au should be the responsibility of Akamai to make compliance occur.
Not on instructions from government departments like police, etc,
Only if instructed to do so by a Court of Law.
Require the owner of the .au domain to suspend or cancel the subdomain of the offending party, except where the domain holder is also proven to be the offending party, in which case the domain entire may be lawfully suspended or cancelled.
unlawful activity should be reported to the police or relevant authority AUDA should not be a law enforcement body.
Go through normal legal processes by reporting it to law enforcement agencies. Removing a domain is like seizing property and should be treated the same way.
if the activity breaks law, there already exist legal system to deal with it. if not breaking any law, no action can be taken. it has nothing to do with the domain name.

<p>There should be consequences, but if the sub-domain is used by a third party (e.g. hosted web service), then a mediation and proof of action taken against the sub-domain party should be able to mitigate action against the entire domain.</p>
<p>If the first level domain is a hosting site they should be obliged by law to close down the offending sub-domain. If they don't comply within a reasonable time period then the 1st level domain can be cancelled.</p>
<p>If the offender is not a hosting site then the base domain can be cancelled immediately.</p>
<p>Prosecute the owner and let the courts determine what to do with the domain</p>
<p>Subdomain is a derivative from the domain, so that the same rules should apply for both.</p>
<p>Warning, if no action take it down!</p>
<p>I dunno, have steps before suspension</p>
<p>Action should be permitted against the sub-domain only, unless there are numerous repeat offences, and the domain name holder is obviously responsible.</p> <p>Case in point: internet bloggers will obtain sub-domain names on sites like "wordpress.com" such as "myblog.wordpress.com" or "fraudulent_activity.wordpress.com".</p> <p>The content on each of these sub-domains is managed by the subscriber who has set up that particular blog. Under the rule as proposed, you would act against the "wordpress.com" domain, potentially penalising thousands of other sub-domains, the operators of which have no responsibility for the activities of the sub-domain which is actually the target of disciplinary action. Further, it may not be possible for the owner of the parent domain to detect in advance whether or not a sub-domain will be an offender when it is first set up.</p> <p>A preferable approach is to act against (or have the parent domain administrator act against) the sub-domain only.</p> <p>The better answer is "Yes, but" as it seems unreasonable to cancel the whole domain for a problem in a subdomain. You need to be more nuanced.</p>
<p>No</p>
<p>The decision should be made by a judicial body. AuDA does not have the power of judicial decision. Enabling such a power would enable car manufacturers to prohibit the use of a 4wd ute by a female driver, or an alcohol company prohibiting smokers or people who smoke a competing brand from purchasing their alcohol.</p> <p>The only entity that can issue an injunction is a court.</p>

See previous answer.
not your responsibility
Refer to law enforcement.
Unless proven to be so by the domain holder - avoid cancelling domains that may have been breached through illegal means. Do not assume unlawful activity to be the responsibility of the domain holder.
Suspend only after warning period of time.
The reasons for canceling a domain must be better defined. Procedures for contacting the owner of the domain first to confirm what is going on, and whether they will remove it themselves so they do not lose the domain. Having a domain name canceled - especially if it was by mistake can cause lots of damage to a business' online reputation, among other things like sales.
Some arbitration
Investigators should determine that the parent domain is directly responsible for the fraudulent activity of the sub-domain before cancelling can be done. Cyber criminals are very sneaky and a parent domain may not know a sub domain has been breached.
Probably more nuanced than yes/no and requires notice period where an illicit sub-domain takeover has occurred
Hold the owner of the main domain responsible for the activity conducted if they are not willing to disclose the identity of the subdomain holder. Cancelling the domain name impacts all other subdomain holders unfairly.
Do not cancel, but rather notify and then suspend.
Suspensions must be able to be removed in under 24 hours 365 days a year. Many groups like to file false claims as anti-competition practises. This feature is asked for it to get abused by large companies or government institutions
Suspend or cancel the sub domain only.
This question does not distinguish between breaking auDA rules and breaking Australian Law.
Initially it should contact the domain owner. If the owner does not respond only then should auDA be able to cancel the domain. This would prevent third parties being able to DoS subletters
What if a domain exists as essentially a hosting service?
You wouldn't shut down a server farm, or ISP because of one bad member
Fines
This completely undermines businesses that use sub-domains for their customers. AUDA should NOT police the namespace....at the moment there is a conflict between policing and judging. This needs to be separated.

Urgent notification with a very narrow time frame to acknowledge and remediate the parent, immediate action against the subdomain.
With a combination of DNS poisoning and contacting enforcement agencies capable of forcing the servers offline.
Or, you know, not asking a general survey to solve a problem with technical solutions.
This should not be an automatic operation and it must account for internal uses of subdomains. Also, what does 'unlawful' and 'fraudulent' mean? So far, this is too broad and speculative.
Work with domain owner to cancel sub domain
This is a "yes, but" answer. Yes they should, but per normal, the registrant should be given the chance to fix the issue by removing the subdomain from their DNS records. AuDA should perhaps have authority to request it from nameserver managers directly?
Exactly the same as the primary domain.
Block the sub domain?
Ensure domain owner is aware of the unlawfulness. After that, if it continues, then take it down.
They shouldn't. If they are eligible for the domain it's stupid to stop them. It goes against free speech and they can just use a folder eg ausfomain.com.au/badco tent/.
Your organisation is overreaching.
What legal framewirk will apply?
A lot of services use user created subdomains - take firebase, WordPress, etc. It would be unfair to punish the owner of the main domain for user activity on a subdomain
Work with domain holders to correct unlawful behavior. If the don't comply then cancel the registration. This protects regisrants who don't know their domain is compromised
sinkhole it
Work with the primary Domain name owner to remediate security breaches
Report potentially illegal domains and subdomains to australian federal police to confirm if the domain breaks any laws and only under direction by AFP remove it.
Maybe auda should be able to take action in certain cases, but I would need more detail before I could say yes to this question
Open channels should be created between domain owners for large websites where subdomains are controlled by third parties. If the domain owner has taken reasonable measures to prevent abuse of subdomain use, the domain should be notified of fraudulent use. Not have the domain shut down

3 strike warning. Contact the Domain owner and inform the business or organisation of the issue.
It should do nothing unless a court orders it to
The responsibility clearly lies with the parent domain. It owns the domain, not auDA. It is responsible.
Block their use
Auda should be able to cancel domains undertaking unlawful activity but not break the rules as the rules are open to interpretation as to whether the subdomain is related to the business or not. This could open this up to abuse
Nothing
what rules and law? .. a domain is a much like a personal phone and should not be 'eavesdropped;
Notice should be given to the parent domain name to cancel or suspend the sub-domain as appropriate within a reasonable period of time. If after the time has elapsed the sub-domain is still active the parent domain should then be suspended or cancelled as appropriate.
Rule of law, neutrality, impartiality... This should be the role of judges/courts.
auDA should not action in those cases.
Liaise with the primary domain holder to ensure they are in charge of said subdomain before automatically cancelling the primary domain
This isn't the function of the domain name system. An Australian entity that registers a name and breaks the law can be dealt with through the normal legal system.
It is not a legal matter, it breaks the dns system.
Cancel the subdomain and get a written statement from the domain holder that it wasn't them who instigated the unlawful business activity. If it happens again or is proven to be a lie, cancel the domain.
There is legitimate use cases for subdomain au domains in this increasing saas environment webhosting providers using subdomains to get customers online quickly, i think there should be a legitimate take down policy sent to the domain owner to remove the offending subdomain before considering suspension
You should be able to take action against the owner of the subdomain but not by suspending the domain itself - unless it's found that the domain is being used primarily to facilitate fraudulent subdomains.
If a sub domain is fraudulent it means access to the domain has been leaked, or the owner has malicious intentions. If it is the former the owner should not suffer because of this.
You should issue a take down notice to the owner. Failure to comply would result in domain suspension pending further investigation
Notification ti law enforcement and the CCC as needed

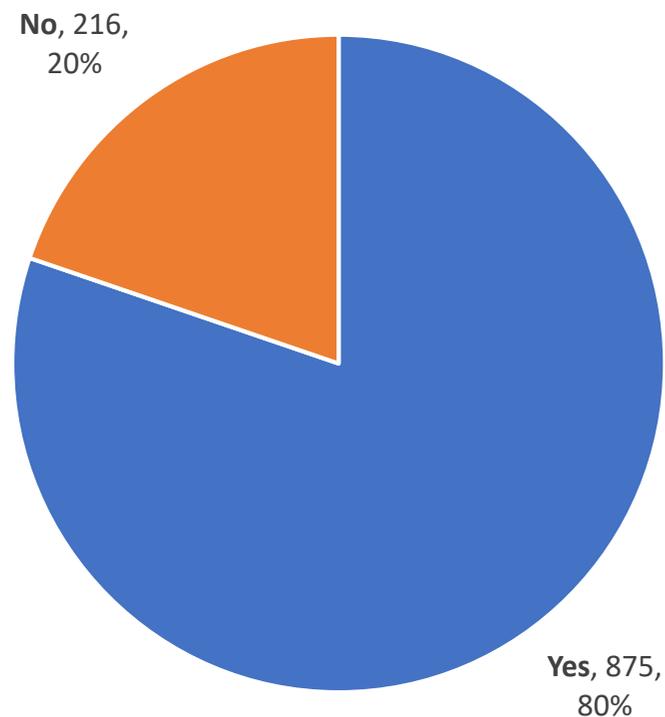
## 4. Prohibition on sub-leasing

Sub leasing of domain names is currently forbidden in .au except between related bodies corporate (e.g. where agents or subsidiaries of a head company wish to make use of a domain licence which is held in the name of the head company).

Sub leasing causes potential issues when it comes to:

- Where a name has been allocated based on a close and substantial connection to the registrant, whether that registrant actually has a connection to it.
- People/entities circumventing the eligibility rules for .au domains
- Whether the WHOIS data accurately reflects who is in control of a domain name.

### Is the prohibition on sub-leasing domains (except by related corporate entities) justified?



If “No”: How can auDA ensure the .au licensing rules aren’t circumvented by entities sub-leasing a .au domain they may not otherwise be eligible for?

<b>How can auDA ensure the .au licensing rules aren’t circumvented by entities sub-leasing a .au domain they may not otherwise be eligible for?</b>
While I agree in principle there are situations where I feel sub-lease may be relevant such as when they have a business partnership and a section of the business is owned by another entity such as real-estate offices.  Ultimately it should be the responsibility of the main domain holder to ensure that the subdomain meets the requirements and I don't think they should profit from it.
There should be no restriction on ownership of a .au domain name same a a car license plate
Would think subleasing domains not ok, even potentially for corp entities due to mergers, take overs, overseas businesses, etc, and gets very confusing to public. What happens though for sites that offer a website builder that has the base domain name which the sites created hang off? Seen USA do this which Australian can use, eg weebly, WordPress etc. Likewise domain names transferred from Australia to USA etc to these sites, are they lost to Australia?
The main registrant can still be held accountable for the use of their domain. Basically, sub-leasing is not the most efficient way for someone to misuse a domain, so prohibition mostly hurts those who follow the rules anyway.  Also, WHOIS data is hardly accurate at the moment, and very easy to obscure.
In the event of a subleasing a seperate Whois record must be created and made available by the TLD (top level domain) holder at each level of subleasing. This may be contracted to a Whois host however in the event of any issues with a subleased domain the owner of that domain must be contactable.
Same checks as when a domain is requested
Restricting the au domain to eligible entities is a noble pursuit and perhaps important due to how expectations of the au domain have developed (due to the rules in place). However a better balance needs to be struck between open use and totalitarianism. Presently the rules in place give auda the easy way out without needing to wear the cost of oversight.
Does joe blogs from Mildura really use the who is site for referencing his cooking site before running up a Samoa dish
Again. It's a simple domain name. It's a piece of property same as a .com  Please stop being so delicate.

There would be other relevant reasons to allow use of an owners domain by a partner not formally related. But would not want to allow companies to buy and then rent out (like squatting)
Required paperwork needs to be submitted by the parent company of the domain to auDA
By putting it back on the domain owner. Any illegal activity is the main domain responsibility and they need to police their own domain.
Holding the lessor responsible is sufficient
<p>Leasing domains and websites happens all over the world for good reason. People with the skills, ability and time to register a domain and rank a website then rent out the website to a person or business that doesn't have the time ability or skills tondo ot themselves.</p> <p>It's not sub-leasing either as you've termed it if the qhole website or domain is leased. It would be sub-leasing if each page of a website was leased to different people.or businesses.</p> <p>Leasing a website is no different to leasing an office or apartment except it is online amd not a physical address. However, it takes more skill for someone to rank a website and get traffic glowing to it than it does to buy an kffice and advertise it on a real estate website.</p> <p>Lastly, if we believe in free enterprise and someone is willing to rent a website from someone else then why is government regulating against this?</p> <p>Leasing domains and websites is a very legitimate industry that assists millions of businesses globally to get more leads and therefore.more customers why exactly are.you not supporting this?</p>
Another attempt at communism
If domains go up in value and are sub leased it is the option of whom owns the domain. .coms can be leased in today's market place
The Nort
If a sub leased domain breaches .au domain regulations it is forfeited.
Loosen the licensing rules to facilitate commercial trade between parties. It should be easy and encouraged to sell or lease a domain name. Many businesses are happy to pay to access a premium name, much like they would a phone number or physical premises.

Leasing of domain names is PROTECTED under Commonwealth Law.
Class 46
LEASING OF DOMAIN NAMES
Well I think the issue is the eligibility rules are somewhat absurd by modern standards
I see this also problematic for example for ISPs that may want to give customers free web sites at customer.isp.com.au
Provide a system to enable ownership to be maintained by a different party than the domain name user. Make both the user and owner demonstrate eligibility.
As long as the entity that owns the domain has the rights to it they should be able to sublease it if they want to.
I think is too much restriction
If the Domain Monetisation is allowed, then it stands to reason that sub-leasing should be allowed. Providing the registrant ensures the sub-lessee meets the Eligibility and Allocation policy. If the sub-lessee breaches the policy, then it should be up to the registrant to take action. If a complaint is made, and it is deemed that usage of the sub-leased domain is in breach of policy then it should be on the registrar to notify the registrant as to potential action if the domain is continually used in breach of policy.
Don't know... not an issue...
Many business provide a service to their customers which includes an internet presence. This presence requires a domain and providing a sub-domain from the service providers TLD is a convenient and scalable way to do this. See question 3 for if a company uses a copyrighted or trademarked name unlawfully.
Enforce the rules on the domain holder. For example, if auDA becomes aware that shoes.forexample.com.au is fraudulent, notify the holder of the domain name so they can cancel the subdomain. If they refuse to do so, then cancel the domain name. But if someone wants to sublease (for example) subdomains in permaculture.com.au they should be able to do so irrespective of whether the sublessors are close corporate entities.
Wouldn't the subdomain rules in the first or second question handle it. you could always provide some certainty by providing a paid subdomain certification for non-common subdomains.
Who ever holds the license for a domain should be able to let anyone use it for whatever legitimate purchase.
There should be no close and substantial connection rule, this is the most restrictive of trade rule, there should be no eligibility rules except an Australian connection.
Prevent sun-leasing only by entities attempting to circumvent eligibility laws. A blanket ban is draconian.

Let us do what we want with the domain names. We have the license, let us sub license it to others.
Sub domains are barely different from example.com.au/username/
The current laws around a website provider being partly responsible for the user content they host should be enough
This acts as a mechanism that restricts the free market and does not encourage innovation or the economy. auDa needs to develop a framework as an organisation to ensure the rules are not circumvented, and in many cases examine the rules themselves which are overly restrictive and prescriptive.
Make the parent domain holder responsible for this
The domain name owner shall held responsibility if the domain name owner is not willing to release the information of the sub leaser. It is like when a car is caught speeding, the car owner is responsible if no other drivers are nominated.
The entity that has a substantial connection to the name, must exist and is responsible for what happens under that domain. Choosing to sublease it is an option - they still have the right to the name, they are choosing to allow another entity to use it.
What problem are you specifically solving here? If the domain being used for something not related to the business registered under it, that should already be included in the main .au rules.
I don't know enough to comment.
My answer should be taken as 'dont Know'
Why not facilitate sub-leasing by allowing the lease to be registered?
The rule is mostly fine, but "except by related corporate entities" should be extended to also be "except by related individuals or the same individual for multiple purposes".
Is this really a big issue? Can't you just run a semi automated audit every three months or so?
Get rid of the licensing rules.
I do not think that is a problem
It's a service related to the domain name. Licensing rules aren't circumvented by definition. Stop trying to regulate the shit out of everything.
I believe there should be free sub leading so this wouldn't apply.
Add an additional registration section for "operator" of a domain in Whois - this could be used to list the sub-lease. Additionally sample deed documents could be made publicly available to cover legal sub-lease arrangements. You could also have a bond for sub-lease. Min domain ownership time to qualify for sub-lease capability

Question 3 answers this. The lessor is responsible for the lessee. The lessor has control of the subdomain. Thus they deserve responsibility.
let the domain owner take responsibility for this. If the leased sub-domain is acting against the rules (fraudulent activities, misleading, etc) then you have the ability to cancel the domain. The domain owner will have to take urgent actions to remediate to prevent the domain to be cancelled.
Not sure
If I knew the answer I'd be doing your job.
By doing your jobs
Maybe use a special top level domain indicating that domains are subleased, and make the parent domain responsible for enforcing the rules on its subdomains and liable for breaches.
Should be able to sublease however they see fit, as long as the sub domains meet the same requirements as the parent domain.  au.cars  au.cars.ford  au.cars.holden  There shouldn't need to be just a corporate entity linkage, however the sub domains should be relevant to the parent, and the parent is responsible to ensure the sub domains do not breach any rules which would be applicable to both the parent and child domains.
It's too subjective. Especially when subleasing is allowed for certain cases. It Depends on the person or agency to make a judgement on whether subleasing is ok. It does not solve the subleasing problem but make it more complex.  My suggestion is open the information for subleasing. Let the public to make judgement. I.e. Build a list of subleasing domains and publish them on the Internet.
How do you determine eligibility? Maybe subject domain holders to same as physical companies?
Warranty check
So long as the company is using the domain (lessee or sublessee) uses the domain within the guidelines (ie the brand, company name, service etc complies) then there should be no limitations or interference from Auda - it's a domain being used to generate income - let it be.

As long as the leased domain is showing content that is compatible with that domain, it should be allowed.
If it isn't then the owner is in breach of holding the domain.
It is illegal and in breach of commonwealth IP Laws
Class 46 LEASING OF DOMAIN NAMES
The whole concept of not being eligible for a subdomain is nonsense. Subdomains do not mean the same thing as domains, don't treat them as the same thing
Firstly there is currently no prohibition on sub-leasing... here is a link from auDAs own website <a href="https://auda.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/200440844-Can-I-lease-my-domain-name-to-another-entity-">https://auda.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/200440844-Can-I-lease-my-domain-name-to-another-entity-</a>
As long as the leasee maintains a website which is auDA compliant then there is no problem.
The entity sub-leasing the domain needs to meet the same eligibility criteria (any of the criteria) that the Registrant is also subject to.
Whois has no future in the modern internet. Eligibility rules for name nexus are also outdated. Justifying are rule based on outdated restrictions is myopic and encourages circumvention. Recognised reality and drop irrelevant rules
Guys, you're over complicating this. Just provide domain names please. You are not an enforcement agency.
If a sublease does not comply with Auda policy, then such sublease is null and void. This can be accommodated in to Auda terms and conditions.
Doesn't this come down to the parent registrant being responsible for all sub domains?
If this really is an issue, it could be dealt with on a case by case basis.
Generally, Id say the law would stop more legitimate activity than it would prevent illegitimate.
I am not sure but I fear this may limit innovation of service provision under an au domain.
In my opinion, sub-domain should not be controlled. Only the main domain should be controlled.
It's not for you to decide how people use their domains
Maintain the same eligibility laws throughout the entire namespace.
It seems (apart from illegal activity) that the .au owner of the primary domain owns that name and should own rights to sub-lease if they want. It's their company after all.

Put in place a process to allow subleasing. For instance the owner should request a subleasing authorization before subleasing.
No need, you can let this one go
I don't know, I'm not a DNS expert. But I imagine if I was overseeing domain name registrations for the entire country, I'd have some resources at my disposal to float some options.
Nobody, including corporate entities, should sublease, except when it can be shown that no monies are transferred
The domain name is owned by a business or person, it is theirs to do with as they please, just like any other assets they may have.
subletting is useful for companies offering hosting services or online services. Examples are facebook, girls and WordPress to name a few. It is so commonplace that there is no reason such things shouldn't be allowed on .au domains.
Many organisations may use another companies name for justified purposes where products or services are outsourced. auDA does not have visibility into these arrangements so it cannot be the judge. There are other channels for organisations to take action if this is misused, auDA's role should take action only based on court outcomes and not act independently.
I don't think the rules are that helpful to begin with
Just get rid of the eligibility rules, and this whole issue goes away. First-come, first-served please, like .com.
A domain registration may enable customers or users to activate a subdomain for status, vanity, or tangential purpose.
Again, auDA can't impose that level of exercise as it would fall foul of anti competition and constitutional laws.
just because you sublease a subdomain shouldn't absolve you of responsibility
This sounds like a smoke screen. Let the rules regarding intellectual property rights and trademarks (along with domain ownership rules regarding residence, corporate address and so on) be the fallback qualifications for all domains sold in the .au environment
Registrants should be required to ensure sublet domains comply with the law, knowing one crime could bring down the entire domain.
Rather than banning subleasing, you could facilitate it, requiring registrants to pass on details of the subleased domain.
Furthermore, I suggest offering safe harbour protection to registrants who make a good faith effort to keep subdomains complying with the law.

If a domain is allocated based on a close and substantial connection to the registrant it is then up to the registrant what they do with their name/brand/business.
Leasing should be permitted if lessor meets eligibility requirements for the domain.
Define two terms - domain owner (person who bought domain, is on WHOIS), and domain user (the entity or person actually using the domain for a website, who it is sub-leased to). If the domain owner is eligible, but the domain user is not; then make it so you have the ability to contact the domain owner to resolve the issue. If the issue can not be resolved, then suspension or cancellation is reasonable, as the domain is not being used within the rules - be sure to please also read my response on question 3 (previous) for detail on what I think the contact/suspension process should be.
Arbitration again. Sure a higher administrative cost, perhaps penalise registrants who 'lose' at arbitration.
The id.au namespace would be a good candidate for subletting, for surnames etc that would like to delegate subdomains to other people.
Only some types of business can do it, such as entertainment domains that sell acts (act-name.comedy.com.au)
Make sure sub-leasing needs to be registered in a way that the lessee is known and agrees to rules analogous to those for registering a domain.
Fix your stupid rules to allow far more freedom in domain selection, the legal system already has remedies for impersonation, it doesn't need your help.
I think it's justified for commercial related domains but for other domains with less stringent requirements I think sub leasing might be ok especially if it makes domain ownership more affordable by sharing costs
They seem like heavy handed licensing rules...
Through a proper investigative process with due diligence and listen to your expert/specialist staff, don't beg the public to fuel your brainstorming sessions.
I can't think of too many legitimate uses that fall out of the current scope, however the ability to apply for a per case review in the instance that someone does find a legitimate reason would be positive.
DNS poisoning, pass breaches to enforcement agencies so they can take the physical servers down.
Don't ask general surveys to solve problems with technical solutions
Yes but there should be some flexibility. Eg, we offer a web service, that we could spin up for larger clients on a sub domain eg. client.example.au under these rules it sounds like that would not be allowed as they would be paying us for that.

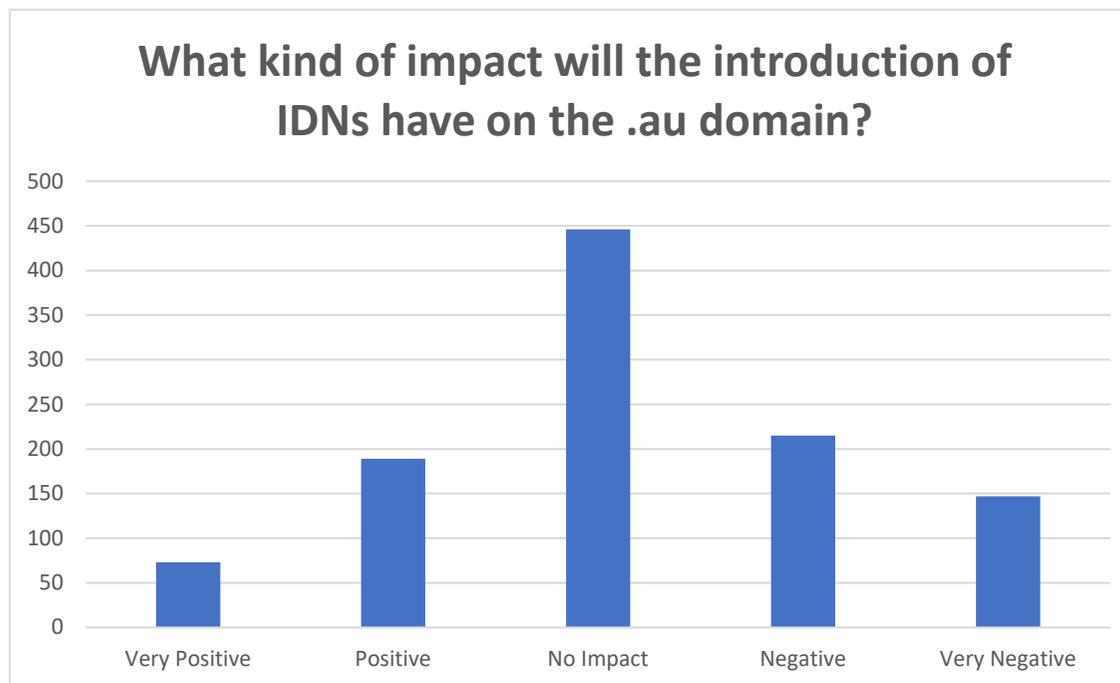
<p>Subleasing of rights in law is a common practice and should not be banned simply because it happens to be a domain name. If there is a breach of the ACL, trademark law or other legislation then a defendable proceeding could be implemented to prevent such activities.</p>
<p>Another "yes, but..." answer. Yes, however the change of ownership should be looked at. Right now, we could have a sole trader who has paid 5 years registration, but is killed in a diving incident and his spouse, to legally take over that businesses' domain name will lose those 5 years. (Real case, but from when we only had 2 years.) Why are we the only country where we can't change the recorded owner without dropping the term already paid? Why are we the only country who can't top up a registration period outside of 90 days before the expiry? COR could still be paid and add a year, OR re-max the 5 years and change the renewal date. It might avoid the sub leasing argument altogether if it is easier to achieve?</p>
<p>All use and actions of the domain regardless of the primary or sub domain should be treated as per the primary domain</p>
<p>It should be also allowed as part of an intellectual property rights allocation.</p>
<p>Hold the domain owner responsible, with the ultimate right for auDA to cancel the domain if a sub domain is found to be in breach.</p>
<p>Seek approval from auDA with similar criteria to top level domains.</p>
<p>Again, it limits the potential uses of a website.</p>
<p>It is an unnecessary system that just prevents .au being used effectively for internet based businesses. The .au licensing rules themselves need revisions and potential removal of the .com so the address scheme can be used in creative styles like many others have done recent years. The reality is the .au to the average user it not something they look at to define a seller being Australian.</p>
<p>auDA should not be allowed to restrict sub-leasing.</p>
<p>This happens many times today where, for example, a domain is registered by an advertising agency created a domain for a commercial campaign. Determining the answer to Q1 probably determines the answer for this question also.</p>
<p>Totally detached from the real life situations where sub leasing is required. Great example is unrelated entities who license trademarks and domain names as part of a distribution agreement</p>
<p>Make the licensing rules less strict.</p>
<p>A warrant by the registrant requiring them to be responsible for any activity by the sub-lessee</p>
<p>if you own it you should be able to lease it out or sell it. just like a house</p>
<p>Maintain a consistent policy over use at all times</p>
<p>AuDA shouldn't care. They are not responsible for the subdomain.</p>

that is legal terminology and this survey seeks to bamboozle consumers and citizens .. so the question is irrelevant and contradictory.
Subleasing should be viewed as a contractual mean to value an asset. A more liberal approach would benefit the community.
Ensure the domain name and trading name or product closely align.
auDA already cannot ensure that.
Leave the main domain responsible
Loosen the restrictions entirely as they are anti competitive.
Other domains work without draconian measures.
I need more information on the background of this to answer.
Using the prior questions ability to hold the domain owner responsible for subdomain usage.
Make it the legal responsibility of the Lessee.
Enable the lessor to be able to be alerted to illegal activity and enable the .au owner to close it down. And provide written proof to auda that it's DNS has been deleted.
If the entity is eligible for the parent domain then surely they have the right to control their subdomain. If the subdomain is abused then this falls under the previous enforcement question.

## 5. Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs)

The new rules allow for names in the following scripts to be registered at the second level:

- Chinese (Simplified)
- Korean
- Japanese
- Arabic
- Vietnamese.



If “negative” or “very negative”: What are the impacts and how can the rules be changed to reduce them?

<b>What are the impacts and how can the rules be changed to reduce them?</b>
Unnecessary in Australia as we have a single primary language. Very likely script characters will be utilised for phishing/nefarious activity. Existing systems administrators would be inclined to engage a regex filter and prevent foreign character domain names ending in the .au TLD.
All au domains should be required to use Australian English as the core information. Translation solutions are free or cheap and readily available.
Deny them.
.au is for Australian use. Other script may lead to overseas use of .au
There should not be any second level .au domains. There is no way to prevent confusion with the existing .au second level domains. And ten years from now, auda will have sold everything on every level.
It adds confusion, reduces accessibility (as these characters are not available to all users unless the computer specifically has these keyboards added), and creates security risks where characters in other languages look like their English/Latin character counterparts (allowing for the registration of domains that 'look the same' but are not). While having domain registrations available in other languages is incredibly important to ensure that the whole world has access to an internet that reflects their language and culture, it should be limited to extension types that are also in that character typeset. This would reduce confusion, reduce complexity for end users, and reduce security risks.
If a company registers an English dn it is possible someone could create a fraudulent copy of that site using the idn equivalent of the English dn. The official company may be unaware of this if they have no easy way to type the idn
Au domains should only contain English Swift
Current 2nd level domains are fine. No need to pander to Domain resellers looking to sell off more "land".
This goes against long established policy of not expanding the 2LD space.
.au currently has a high degree of brand recognition as a space for Australian registrants. While many Australian residents are fluent in these other languages, it may dilute the space's distinctiveness and high reputation.

<p>The obvious impact is direct reduction of our sovereignty through rapid dissemination, to exclusively foreign audiences, of bulk information concerning the way Australia operates at every level. This must be addressed at every front, including yours, and you must consider the merits of leaving such security doors open VERY carefully! We don't want to present ourselves as plums ripe for picking by everyone more aggressive and far sighted than we are. I would be interested to find out what the intelligence community think about IDNs.</p>
<p>China, in particular, exerts considerable control over Chinese citizens in Australia - many of whom came here to escape oppression by their government. The same would apply to any country seeking undue influence of citizens abroad.</p>
<p>I also don't believe you have the capacity to monitor those domains without pricing small, legitimate businesses such as mine out of existence altogether - my web development business began on a shoestring budget, and that was everything I could muster.</p>
<p>Non language speaking people will not know what the domain name is</p>
<p>Less trust, spoofing domains with a similar foreign character, English is the single official language of Australia and the domain name system should not use non-english alphabet.</p>
<p>As per RFCs currently.</p>
<p>Official language of AU is English, we should stick to that</p>
<p>keep it as it is in romanic characters only</p>
<p>Having foreign lettering in front of a com.au domain name could be somewhat confusing to those accessing the site. This may cause some people to falsely (in good faith) report certain sites as fraudulent.</p>
<p>Australia is an English speaking country, and this will make it harder for everyday Australians to read some of our own domains</p>
<p>Overseas shady companies can pose as someone reliable and people will assume the name is part of the original domain. They shouldn't be allow to tag onto existing names if they are not really associated with the original.</p>
<p>Should bee in English this is australia</p>
<p>easily discernible and verifiable in the english language should be a must in australia</p>
<p>There are already too many opportunities for domain name variations. The last thing we need is more opportunities for domain squatters and other miscreants to abuse the system and registering domains inappropriately. Additionally, this is the AUSTRALIAN domain name system; the official language of Australia is English. The system should operate in a common language that all can understand.</p>

The official language of Australia is English. Muslim terrorists and Asian crime gangs don't need to have life any easier.
Keep it in English script to keep it clear and identifiable to all Australians.
Australia is a predominantly English speaking country. By opening up the .au registration in foreign script it alienates the vast majority and can lead to discrimination by making their products or services available to only those transverse in that language.
Ensure Unicode "confusable" characters are not allowed in domain registrations.
It is in the best interests of the entire .AU domain space for language standardisation to be maintained. All .AU domain names should be in English ONLY. This allows access and transparency at all levels to all interested parties.
The .au has credibility but if it appears in other languages, it creates the impression that a foreign company is tail gating our credibility. Do not allow this.
Third level would make more sense. Second level really should be kept similar to how they are currently.  Gov is a government body  Com has an ABN  Org is a registered non profit org  Etc.  Its not the language or script, it's that we (businesses consumers and ISP ) should not be allowed to have custom second levels in any language including English (or emoji).
Depends on how the registration works. If I have shoesonline.com.au can someone else register that in Chinese or is it by rights mine to register if desired.  Don't want domain squatting to occur.
Detracts from the name space. Shows discrimination.  IDNS should prove they have registered the English / Australian equivalent and that is is accessible to all.
If every domain was in English it would help understanding if anything was beaching that depicted in the first question.

Extremely dangerous and NOT needed.
Too risky for auDA who will legally become responsible.
Australian English is our main language and all domain names should reflect this.
Only exceptions should be for indigenous languages.
Lack of consistency and ease of understanding
Not permitted. Confusion. Opportunities for misleading names. Inability for english speaking users to read or evaluate except for au extension gives undue stress on au domain name credibility
Not entirely sure what this question is about, but if it's anything to do with people overseas registering Australian domain names, then yes this is a problem as they will abuse it and we will run out of .au domain names quickly like the .coms over in USA.
Domains should either be limited to English, the official language of Australia, or opened to all languages and character sets.
It will make it very difficult to tell if an au domain name is legitimate or not if it's allowed to be in a foreign script, particularly those that a lot of scams come from. It's hard enough now to accurately determine what is and isn't a scam. Allowing this would make it harder.
.au domains should be limited to language of the country.
English being the countries language, there should be no IDN's. All .au domains should be English only. Co tent can be in any language of choice and scripted based on the user IP if desirable. Additional languages will cause confusion in identifying the authenticity of the website without the need for verification
English is the accepted general language of Australia. Enabling a non English domain creates a division in society and enables non English groups to operate and exclude English speakers.
It is generally considered illegal for government services to not provide translators.
Enabling groups to operate non English domains will result in secretive groups excluding English speaking Australians.
English is the official language of Australia, the Australian domain hierarchy should be in English. Translations into other languages are fine but I believe that the domain name at least should be intelligible to ALL Australians, not just one ethnic minority.

<p>You open the door to a lack of auditability of subdomain names due to language and lingo. Not sure how your systems and criteria for detecting breaches in content work, but I'm sure "shaggin.movies.com.au" would warrant a glance.</p>
<p>Although multicultural Australia has only one official language in English. All registrations should match that.</p>
<p>The .au name space relates directly to Australia, if we allow the 5 proposed IDN's we are basically 'internationalising' the .au space. Also there are multiple challenges and complexities to implement for registrars and reseller's alike.</p>
<p>It opens up too much potential for abuse.</p> <p>Too much confusion for users.</p> <p>There is inherent trust implied with .au</p>
<p>Unsure</p>
<p>This may potentially be used for phishing. There was a case where some scripts translated to a legitimate website in English and due to the encryption set, consumers were not aware of it, resulting on data exposure.</p>
<p>Not clear how to type these in. Could an anglicised alternative also be valid?</p>
<p>These scripts should only be allowed for country TLDs where the script in question forms one of the official languages of that country. I don't want to find myself on a .au domain where I can't read the the domain name any more. Fair enough if I'm on a .cn or .jp though.</p>
<p>IDNs are a disaster. Similar looking Unicode gyphs etc to fool people into thinking they are actually on another website. I don't believe Australia has a valid need for IDNs, nor should have ever implemented them. ASCII or nothing.</p>
<p>Confusion</p>
<p>This would potentially open the door to a lot of chaos and confusion in the namespace. AU has enjoyed a lifetime of security and confidence introducing IDNs would complicate and confuse the public confidence. Also, if these 5 why just these 5? what about the 100's of other minorities and their representation? Best left as is.</p>
<p>Confusion for users. Switching between scripts for a domain name seems difficult.</p>
<p>It could result in confusion as to whether the domain is actual issued from Australia, and potential loss of confidence in the .AU issuer.</p>
<p>The Internet domain scheme began in English and needs to remain standardised in English.</p>
<p>An English speaking web user would not be able to effectively assess the trustworthiness of a domain name containing IDN's.</p>

A .au domain should required to be in an ascii readable language. Utilising non-ascii character sets is overwhelmingly used to obfuscate malicious content.
English speaking internet users will have absolutely no way of knowing what kind of domain they may be visiting, frankly this policy will invite compromise vectors.
Australia's official language is English and most of the population speaks English. IDNs would exclude the majority of the Australian population from being able to read the domain name. This poses a risk as a person might inadvertently visit a website which contains objectionable content (eg. explicit sexual material). It also excludes English speakers from being able to identify malicious or insecure sites based on reading the URL, increasing information security risks, and could potentially facilitate terrorist organisations through sharing information in another language.
Well why do it? You're opening doors to criminals.
Potential for scams in relation to foreign characters being introduced and abused.
These letters aren't allowed in a registered company name, so showing a connection can be harder. Also, translations of a business name to one of these languages might be registered by an unrelated party without the knowledge of the company.
Australia's main language is English
If the plans are to allow second level domains under .au to be in languages other than English then I strongly disagree. It should be disallowed unless it is displayed as an alt-text or similar. English is the official language. How can you claim to be fulfilling your primary goal of domain names being clear indicators of intent when the majority of the population cannot read them
Can we not just have our official language kept at that? Use english only.
why only those 4 subsets?
IDNs will affect the way the .au space is perceived, I believe that it should remain in English as that is the accepted rule for Australian Businesses in registration documentation and most official publications. The introduction of IDNs will make the enforcement of the domain rules much harder and require a large amount of unnecessary resources to police. And we know that the police will not happen and abuse of the domain system will occur.
We'll see
The official language of Australia is .au. This change is discriminatory.
Ensure that the entity purchasing the domain is from Australia. The .au domain is considered fairly safe currently due to requiring an Australian Business Number to register the domain, so as long as this continues, and the entity has an appropriate connection to the IDN, then this change should be alright.

<p>ICANN might have allowed non-ascii characters to be used in domain names, but they are rarely seen except for illegitimate purposes such as phishing. They are also more difficult for developers to work with as many languages typically assume ascii for strings as a default.</p>
<p>Very challenging to understand and English is the official language of Australia so there is no justification to have other languages in .au</p>
<p>Question doesn't specify what the "second level" is.</p>
<p>Would prefer .au domains to be in English script only.</p>
<p>We are Australia scripts should be in English</p>
<p>Allowing unicode domain names makes it possible for extremely similar domains to be registered to current high profile names, which could be used for scans or fishing attacks.</p>
<p>It will be difficult for english only speakers to identify legitimate domains from fraudulent ones.</p>
<p>They shouldn't be allowed under .au as they would allow phishers to use visually similar characters in foreign scripts to mislead the public.</p>
<p>Introduce and enforce appropriate worldwide Unicode standards aka you can't and should let this happen</p>
<p>Promotes segregation, which as history has shown, is very very bad</p>
<p>Potential to increase fraud and misuse of domain</p>
<p>Mixing of scripts should be forbidden, same rules must apply to these scripts as apply to current, must be a meaningful connection to the business</p>
<p>.au should be accessible to Australian users, the introduction of alternative scripts to standard Australian alphabet could make it difficult for users to enter a domain, given most people do not have access to a keyboard in those scripts.</p>
<p>Additionally, a user may be less able to determine the difference between two words/ phrases in an alternative script which may make it easier for malicious users to misdirect users with different words that look similar.</p>
<p>Are they available at the third level currently? So if japanese.com.au is registered, changing to japanese.au won't make a difference. However if it isn't currently allowed, what are the reasons it wasn't? Are those reasons still valid? This questions needs more information.</p>

<p>While this is acceptable and expected for other country domains (Japanese for Japan, Chinese for China, etc) where the National language is not Latin based and they understandably should allow for their own language character set, it should not be permitted for the .au domain.</p>
<p>The .au domain is for Australia and for Australian's to access. By permitting non-Latin languages it promotes segregation within the .au domain space.</p>
<p>How can people understand the purpose associated with a domain if they can't read it? What is the point of domain names that are unreadable by a large portion of the population? why have the .au suffix at all?</p>
<p>We are Australia, not any of the countries in the list above. We use English as a form of conducting business and conveying info. There is ZERO need for Internationalised Domain Names.</p>
<p>While I understand the attraction for businesses to register these names, my biggest concern is it not being managed and enforced and the reputation of the .au domain space being impacted by an influx of random and questionable domains that have nothing to do with Australia.</p>
<p>Its Anti Australian. Not surprising seems like tyhis government eould sell the whole country to Vhina if they could!!</p>
<p>IDNs are confusing and ripe for malicious use. Is auDA going to police malicious or offensive domain names in these languages? How about if a domain name in one of these languages is culturally offensive? Something like 새끼 can be quite derogatory when used in the wrong context. How about references to Taiwan?</p>
<p>It will make it harder to understand the registrants business activity.</p>
<p>It is very easy to create phishg and scam sites using IDNs or characters in the Cyrillic set (which I think some Arabic characters are) since people are able to create identical-looking domains which point somewhere else.</p>
<p>It reduces transparency for to most Australians who cannot read these scripts.</p>
<p>All of these examples can be represented in Latin characters, but a Chinese domain name can't be entered by the majority of Australian keyboard set ups, as most just install US or Australian English keyboards.</p>
<p>Australia's primary language is English .... how will ordinary Australians be able to read or type these scripts! This is not practical and belongs in another domain space.</p>
<p>Potential for increased spoofing attacks, use of different characters to disguise a false domain. Unsure how to reduce risk</p>
<p>Ideally, there should be no change to the IDN's just to satisfy a minority of groups. I am not being racist, but I think IDNs is just way of us bowing to the minorities</p>
<p>Having different scripts adds complexity to browser design. The standard English script is used by most other languages. China uses our script currently, and their domain names don't have to be English words.</p>

Au is an English speaking country. Any other language may not be understood by many (most) other people thus creating a clear discrimination on English speakers.
Good translation of the second level script at a consumer level would provide transparency and allow a informed decision on using that domain site
Just allow letters, numbers, and - as it is now
Any .au website should be in English, it is our national language.
if it is .au it should be Australian
Will water down the relevance of .au to Australia. Standard keyboards are not able to type in these names. Should keep the general domain name requirement that all URLs be in English.
We speak English in Australia. If I can't read it then it shouldn't be .au domain. This is open to abuse including misrepresentation and fault names where the letters look the same.
We don't need this in AU.
None of these languages are official languages of Australia, and most Australians will not know how to type in the address. This would cause segregation and possibly impede law enforcement.
I can't imagine a situation where a domain related to an Australian business would need to use this
.au domains must be Australian. International domain names must not be .au but something else
1. English only users may not recognise the meaning of a domain if it's represented in a foreign format.
2. Having domain names not in AU/English detracts from the prestige that having an Australian subdomain gives
Seems like we should just stick to our national language for simplicity of address entry and also to keep the costs of policing domain content down.
Unclear what the website is passing itself off as except for speakers of those languages. Therefore harder to enforce rules.
We speak english
While acknowledging that Australia is a multi-cultural country, our recognised legal language is English. Our internet presence should reflect this.
AuDA lacks capabilities in these languages to enforce its policies.
People who don't speak that language won't be able to remember or type the domain in. Maybe that's a fair compromise since the user is probably targeting a non-English speaking Australian audience but it bears mentioning
No way for most people to tell if it's a scam website - can't read the domain name to check.
Domain registration should only be available in the official languages of Australia

<p>This goes against the Australian culture of English being our primary language and the public expectation that those who come to Australia (permanently) need to assimilate and learn English.</p>
<p>By allowing URLs ending in .com.au to contain characters from another language you are discouraging this assimilation and not enforcing the public expectation.</p>
<p>Can increase fraud as different alphabets are used to look like English letters and should not be required in an English speaking country</p>
<p>I don't get it - isn't the whole argument to enable businesses to be identified... when 99% of the population can't read any of those scripts this seems like a weird idea.</p>
<p>It will lead to confusion and possible stealing of trademarks if people can register domains in languages other than English. Very strongly oppose this idea. Registration of domains should only be allowed in the official language of this country.</p>
<p>Why do it?</p>
<p>Just don't allow it</p>
<p>Opens up confusion</p>
<p>Reduced legibility of domain names.</p>
<p>Prevents significant section of the internet audience from reading domain names in scripts they don't know. Makes enforcement of new sub domain rules much harder.</p>
<p>all .au domains should be in character script used in australia, so all australians can see what a company is doing in Australias name. Have no issue with the page[s] being in other scripts</p>
<p>Could allow for to be tricked into going to a domain that they don't expect. Need to ensure as best as possible that no confusion is likely.</p>
<p>I would like to see equivalents/aliases for any domain names registered in one language to be created in all the other languages, so as to ensure uniqueness at a canonical level.</p>
<p>We shouldn't be required to register mybrandnameinwhateverlanguage.com.au explicitly in every language to protect it from being "hijacked".</p>
<p>(In the same way as you presumably wouldn't allow a mydistinctbrandname.org.au to be registered by someone else when I have registered mydistinctbrandname.com.au)</p>
<p>Second level IDNs? You mean third level I hope? i.e. &lt;IDN&gt;.com.au &lt;IDN&gt;.net.au etc? No problem with that. There should only be the small set of traditional second levels: com.au, net.au, org.au etc. Otherwise you're letting the floodgates open to having ANYTHING at level 2. The announcement to open up level 2 was a mistake.</p>

introduces inconsistency and is discriminatory against scripts that are not of those 5. Risks splintering the open web.
It obfuscates the domain name and could cause problems securing sites with rules and routing based on strings etc.
Simply don't do it.
Provide more information - I don't understand the question.
It's bad enough that our physical infrastructure is being sold off to foreign interests, let alone our virtual infrastructure. Until such time as the Australian conscious written in another language, .AU domains should only contain English script
Including a right to left language with a left to right parent goes against common sense and established recommendations. Pls review the IDN guidelines that ICANN publishes. Auda should consider the idn fast track for script specific TLDs. Also every idn registry has had poor uptake because of the hamfisted way they are deployed. Auda appears to be following all the bad implementation missteps that others have made
This is more of a case that the increased character set may be used to trick people to visit bad websites by substituting characters.
This really needs to be dealt with hire up the chain then the domain names, which are getting closer to being phone numbers that people don't look at closely enough
Security issues primarily
We're Australian and speak English.
Not all scripts are universally accessible to all users / devices essentially limiting access to the domain
all .au domains should be in unaccented Roman characters
.au domains should only be in english representing the defacto national language of Australia.
Get rid of all .au domains altogether
Most people in Australia won't be able to read them. Or type them.
Only standard ANSI characters should be permitted.
Positive + negative...
Do not allow them. It is easy to fake a website address using the above methods, ssl included
The impacts will be mixed, and while there are some advantages, particularly for non English readers, it will complicate the vetting process, especially where cultural differences are poorly understood. This may leave open potential for fraud or misrepresentation

<p>Although AU is culturally diverse, this will allow businesses to register domains that are not understood by the majority.</p>
<p>Validation of the domain process will become complex and ultimately result in more admin costs to maintain. Which will make the .AU domain more expensive.</p>
<p>again i dont understand the actual question</p>
<p>English is the Australian Language. If you start off with 5 languages then you have to make provision for every other language and related script that comes along. This limits the level of transparency of investigation to those native to those that read that script.</p>
<p>Only Roman scripts should be permitted</p>
<p>This survey is silly. Obviously there will be very positive impacts for ELS-speaking folk, while for people speaking English only, this change will obfuscate the nature of a website. IDNs that could carry translations would help.</p>
<p>There is a risk of abuse by use of similar characters to create misleading, though potentially “legal” domain names. Not ascii characters should be tested for visual similarity similar to how number substitution in license p,antes is vetted to avoid rude plates (eg PEN15)</p>
<p>For the same reason that protects .au domain registration. We are an English speaking nation and as such our domain names should be in English too.</p>
<p>None of these languages are official languages of Australia or, indeed, the vast majority of the internet. Such things can be used as security loopholes. While it is acceptable in China to have Chinese domain names, and Korean domain names in Korea, there no place for that in the au domain space.</p>
<p>If I can't understand the domain name, how can I detect a fraudulent site. What if the domain name from the site</p>
<p>Phishing</p>
<p>not everybody understands it. no need for this</p>
<p>These domain names are effectively inaccessible to a large portion of the Australian population.</p>
<p>Transparency is key. As English is our recognised language, domain names that are not in English can be considered subversive or corrupt.</p>
<p>It depends on the target market for these domains. Most Australians are not likely setup to enter international script from their keyboards, or at least wouldn't know how to. However, for companies marketing to foreign markets,</p>
<p>Typical Australian users can't type in foreign scripts. Au domains should be reachable by all AU citizens. It complicates tech support for hosting providers and network maintainers.</p>

<p>This will create difficulties for small businesses to enforce copyright and reduce competitiveness. The .au domain is English so this should be consistent for the domain.</p>
<p>using additional scripts would lead to greater fraud and would have a flow-on effect to SSL certificates and reduce overall trust in the domain.</p>
<p>Having secondary and tertiary scripts would create a multi-tiered system and cause discrimination and create disadvantages.</p>
<p>National IDNs can be allowed ONLY in case they would be doubled with English equivalents. Discrimination of people to access services which are offered to everyone, however, limited by nationality: one just can't access a service if can't type its name. That's like Chinese-language bill posts. In a multicultural country where English is lingua franca, everyone speaking this language should. be able to access any service</p>
<p>If we can't read them we wouldn't know where we are logging into</p>
<p>Seems weird. I'm not against it, but you can't comment for no impact responses</p>
<p>English only</p>
<p>Domains associated with .au should reflect an association with Australia, and be readily accessible to the majority of the Australian population. Domain names should be limited to use of Australian language letters, and numbers.</p> <p>Australians who only speak English would be unlikely to be able to type characters from these languages into their browsers, and the sites would therefore become less accessible to them.</p> <p>Further, from a security perspective, review of sites with URLs in foreign languages would be problematic, as they would rely on review by bilingual security personnel.</p>

<p>While there are many non-english speaking Australians whom this would benefit, it provides for second level domain names that will be incomprehensible to the majority of Australian users.</p>
<p>Nationally managed communications rules such as this will be best served by selecting a single universal language based on the most widely used language in the relevant country. In this case Australia, and therefore English.</p>
<p>Protecting consumers by making rules to ensure that a domain name matches a company, then making said domain name incomprehensible to the majority of users, seems counterproductive.</p>
<p>The observation that more Australians should be multilingual, might be true, but doesn't solve the problem.</p>
<p>This question needs more explanation so that the average Joe can comprehend it. From my very basic understanding, this will allow pockets of .au websites that are not comprehensible to those who only speak English. My guess is this will impair monitoring and enforcement and drive up it's cost. It may also be much easier to facilitate scam or criminal activity, not to mention confusing for most internet users who expect .au websites to appear (at least upon first visit) in English. This may also dilute trust in the .au "brand". At the moment my opinion is that trust is implicit for any website with .au for most Australians, which is fantastic in an era of digital uncertainty.</p>
<p>Detecting spoof domains is difficult enough with US-ASCII limitations.</p>
<p>Greater issues for auda compliance checks.</p>
<p>This will weaken ownership rules.</p>
<p>How is this making sure we are catering to our economy and that these names are being used correctly.</p>
<p>This will just add confusion to consumers and dilutes the value of an Australian domain. The whole point of an Australian domain is to reflect a local Australian presence/entity and English is the only official language of Australia. A Japanese domain for example will give the impression of a Japanese entity. What problem are you trying to solve with this proposal and does that justify the potential pitfalls of adding foreign character sets?</p>
<p>It will dilute the integrity of .AU make it more confusing trying to work out if it's a legitimate site or not.</p>
<p>Not sure - but reconsider - much harder to police. Complicates the arena</p>
<p>Australia is an English language country and our domains should reflect this.</p>
<p>If it is operating in Australian for the Australian consumer it should be open, transparent and traceable.... international domains should be required to at least register with an English title and be traceable as such</p>
<p>.au is for Australia, this may make it seem like the domain is more international or not for Australians.</p>
<p>Each IDN should have an English version equivalent 1:1 so that those who don't speak the language have an opportunity to sense check whether they're being scammed or not</p>

<p>Either allow none or allow all scripts, dont pick and choose an reject other systems.</p>
<p>I prefer to have none, due to the look-alike UTF problem.</p>
<p>It's actually both, it's great for native speakers but could be used to conceal intent to non-speakers, it's also far harder to police.</p>
<p>Businesses practicing/ operating in Australia should maintain English language standards and not allow other languages as it denies access except to those specific groups.</p>
<p>.au names clearly indicate a website is Australian. Foreign language .au will introduce confusion, leading to lack of customer trust.</p>
<p>Must be in English. We are all whoosh speaking country.</p>
<p>most Australians don't know how to enter these characters. Domains using them would exclude those people. Perhaps require internationalised domains to also have an English (or at least romanised) domain also with foreign language versions as an accessible alternative. I don't think Australian websites should be excluding English speakers.</p>
<p>Not really Australian then is it?</p>
<p>Seems like a good place to hide illegal activity, where muggles can't even key in the address!</p>
<p>Australians won't be able to read web addresses in English and they may look like spam.</p>
<p>Potential for radical groups to reach Australian market posing as a legitimate domain. If a word can not be understood in English it should not be allowed. Initials for a business are OK as they relate to a business.</p>
<p>Using other scripts can introduce conflicting and disreputable names.</p>
<p>I can't think on the spot of reasonable methods Odd regulation, however I would be inclined to filter all foreign language subdomains on any network for which I am responsible.</p>
<p>IDN homograph attacks may be possible between Chinese and Japanese language domains, as well as English and Vietnamese.</p>
<p>Require all domain registrations to convert identical or near identical characters to a common unicode character. I don't know if you can force DNS to do the same for .au domains without breaking the wider internet.</p>
<p>.au should be in english being the generally accepted language of Australia. Allowing international scripts may confuse and cloud the authenticity of a site. Also many do not know how to change script when trying to access sites. Even at the second level it could open an opportunity for increased fraud.</p>
<p>I feel they should be limited to what can be found on an average keyboard</p>
<p>It will limit who can type, read or interact with the address. Thereby creating a sub culture within the internet. Also can limit the authorities ability to manage and ensure the security of the public who can be misled by seeing the 'au'</p>

and the safety it gives. You see this in certain suburbs where the shops are all written in non English. It limits knowledge of what the shop is and what they sell to many other parts of the community.
Lack of accessibility for English-only speakers
Do not allow this rule full stop
Chinese - No way!! All the others, friends of Australia, are totally fine
English only speakers won't know what the domains are and that they're legal and legitimate
Propensity to exclude people in their own online land, and for international trade to be disguised as Australian economic trade.
Er, don't allow it.
Don't allow foreign language with au domains. We are an English speaking country and our alphabet is English (Latin) based.
It also means that you will need to check the names against what they claim.
English is the only official language of Australia. Understanding is lost
Keep it Australian.
I'm not sure i can answer this precisely, all i know is that I believe I should be able to read whatever is written in the address bar of my browser, especially if it has a .au sticking to it.
Fraud mainly they should be made to register a need for other languages and pay more
Creates a need to register multiple domains for the same business. It does nothing to improve genuine economic output.
De-identification of Australian domain space, and the extension of potentially negative sovereign influence.
Business transactions and business names should be completed in English to prevent fraud from occurring. Content on websites should instead be encouraged to be displayed in text in a language that can be translated by google translate or similar. This would include images with text other than the modern 26 letter English alphabet but allow Latin characters to be accented.
Australian domains should only be available in the official language of the registry they are registered to. In Australia our only official language is English, so domains should follow. In countries where there is more than 1 official language (eg Singapore) then multiple languages may be appropriate for domain names.

All Australian domains should be in English with a facilities to have associated name in other languages redirected to the Australian named domain.
In fact, I would go a step further and say that all australian sites that use a language other than English should provide a translation option into English. All contact details on a site should also be in English as well as the site's other languages.
do not allow IDNs. Australia has English as the ONLY national language, I myself speak 12 different languages, but IDNs on .au TLDs will just pollute the whole namespace.
Zero benefit without applicable top level matched IDN requirements.
I can't type those domains in on my keyboard. This will create pockets of unintentional privacy. Moreso, the domains won't be recognisable or quotable by words.
Saying that, if there are positives it'd be good to hear about them.
It will be difficult for non-readers of these scripts to identify the sites by name alone which could aid misdirection - there needs to be a mechanism for easily seeing the name in English or otherwise directly verifying who the domain is.
It's a TLD for Australia where the national language is English. I feel enabling use of other scripts would assist in those wishing to use the .au extension for malicious purposes.
Accessibility. How would you control the use of mixed domain names with IDN's?
Not everyone in Australia understands foreign languages. The subdomain should contain an English translation. Otherwise domains like don'tvoteliberal.liberalparty.org.au could exist with the subdomain concealed from ordinary australians
Characters that look almost identical used for phishing and fake sites
to allow auto translation of those scripts
I think it will undermine the integr
Helping the chi ese hack our websites in their language
The only concern is that the foreign script does not use a name that is already connected with a business. That is try to circumvent the law or try to harm an existing business.
This could open up address/domain spoofing by use of similar-looking Unicode characters. This would need to be addressed in the rules.
this does not include the gamut of worldwide language and is exclusive and ill-considered
An Australian domain should be primarily in English.

Potential for dodgy activity if the script can't easily be monitored.
English is the official language of Australia and Australian websites should be able to be identified in English. The fraudulent election flyers in Chinese mimicking official electoral information is an example of misuse that could be significantly worse at domain name level
Could translations of the IDN's in English be communicated too? No issue with foreign languages but English is more widely understandable
Keep the restrictions. If anybody wants to access in any other language here or abroad they can use translation services.
It could confuse ESL communities into believing the second level domain is owned by the same company as the primary domain.
We have a national language, use it.
Splits Australian domain use
No IDNs for au domains
It has to be ASCII based otherwise it's a nightmare to manage
Can not be understood by a large portion of the public creating a divided .au space.
Does this mean that you would need to register 5+ domains. So you get your brand in each allowed script? Who verifies that the foreign languages actually say the correct thing.
Probably could make tracking down ownership of sites more difficult or diffuse.
Whilst I am all for international communication this seems to make things unnecessary complex
Standard ASCII only. I beg of you.
Why do we need these for the AU domain
There must remain the ability for an English comprehending Australian to immediately be able to identify and understand the URL and for that to happen it must be in English, the main language spoken in Australia.
Hard to type.
Difficult to access by English only users. Most (if not all) users of those scripts can easily use an English keyboard.
Unreadable to the majority
Wider character sets increase phishing potential with similar looking characters. Great care would be needed for this not to reduce security/trust in the au domain.



## 6. Second level names implementation: The cut-off date for .au priority

When second level .au domain names launch, existing registrants will have six months to apply for priority to register the exact match of their existing .au domain at the second level.

e.g. Tina holds the licence for getyour.com.au and can apply for priority to register getyour.au

In a small number of instances there will be more than one eligible applicant for a second level name.

E.g. Tina holds the licence for getyour.com.au, Gene holds the licence for getyour.net.au, both can apply for priority to register getyour.au

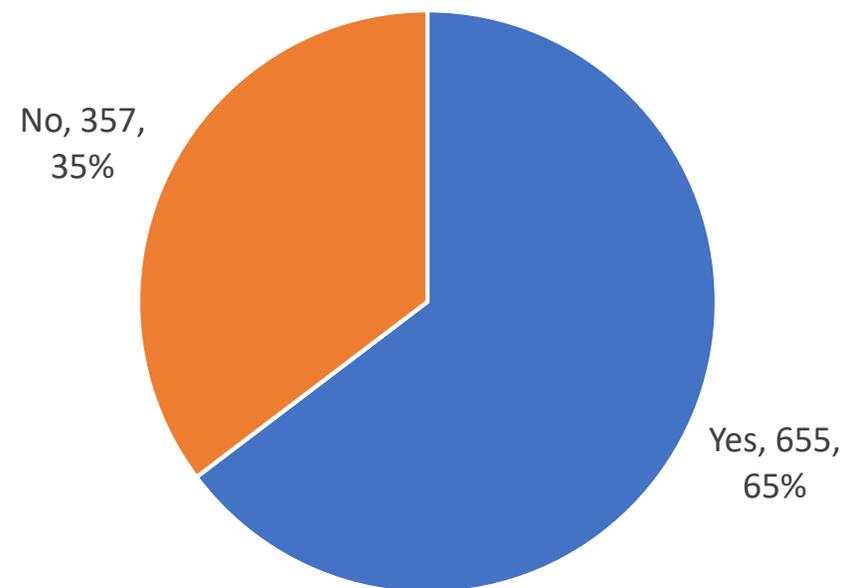
In these cases, registrants of existing names created on before the “cut-off date” of 4 February 2018 are given priority over registrants whose names were created after.

The priority cut-off date aimed to mitigate situations of profiteering by parties registering third level domain names that would be attractive to buyers at the second level.

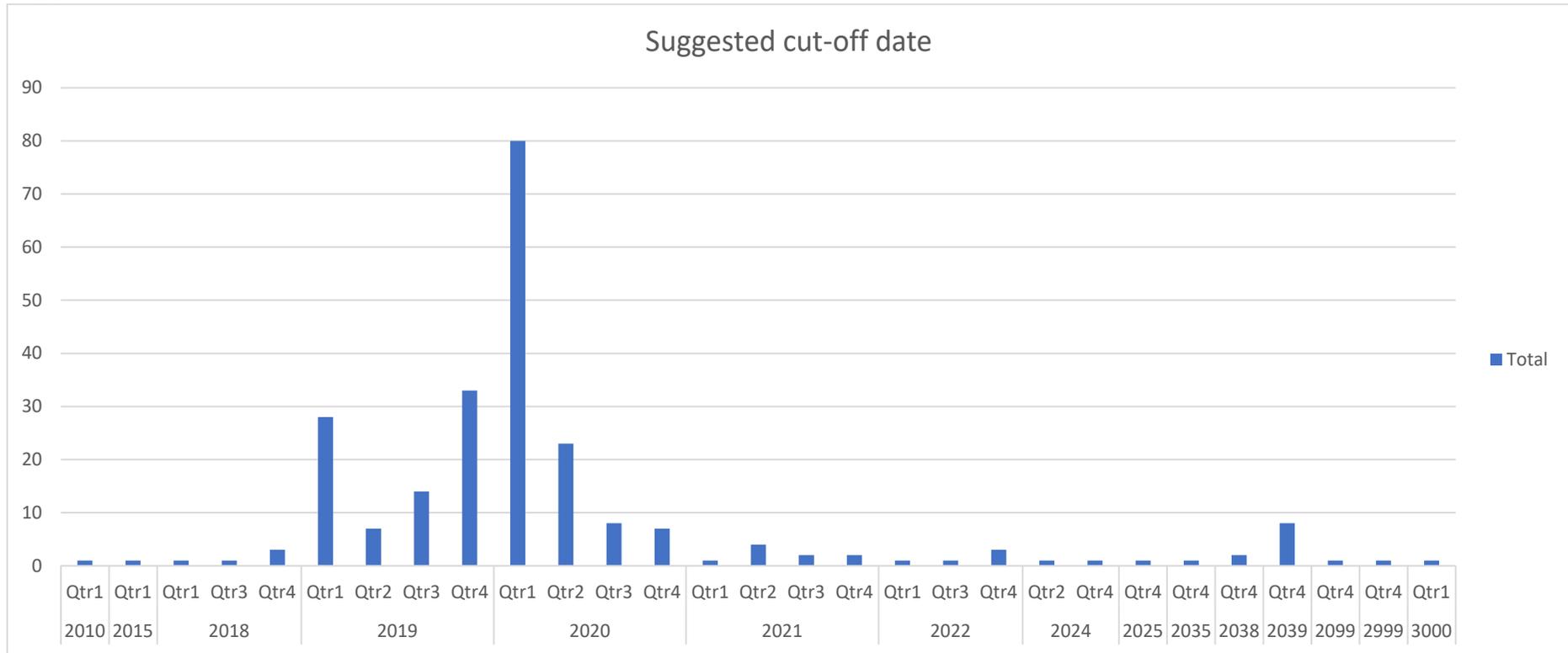
Factors influencing the choice of 4 February 2018 as the date were:

- the originally planned launch date for second level names of 1 July 2019
- the size of the pool of potentially contested names
- A cut-off date set too far in advance of the launch may adversely affect new businesses, especially those that are unaware that direct registration is coming. A cut of date set too close to the launch may significantly increase the pool of contested names.

**Given the launch of second level names is delayed until mid 2020 is the cut-off date of 4 February 2018 still appropriate?**



Suggested Dates



### Why that date?

Date	Why?
1/07/2019	That probably allows a 12 month window. Given uncertainty all round, this seems only fair.
17/10/2024	There should be no .au domain names at all, it's just profiteering and unnecessary
(blank)	Don't support second level domains
4/02/2018	4 February 2018 is still fine, as the principal of preventing people squatting on 3rd level domains now is still admirable. That said, a second tier cut off may help newer businesses that have registered in the intervening time. Any cutoff dates shouldn't be advertised until they have passed, to discourage people squatting.
31/07/2021	I've never even heard this was happening, no one knows about it. You need a dispute resolution in place for a few years after you launch it so people that didn't realise can get their domains back.
1/02/2020	You wrote feb 2018 didnt you mean feb 2019 in advance of mid 2019 launch?
1/01/2019	Less arbitrary date
1/01/2015	A five year period is normally the domain registration term for established businesses. This should allow a more "first in first served" policy.
4/02/2020	(blank)
1/01/2020	Because some of us had no idea about it back in 2018 and you're asking us now near the end of 2019
12/10/2035	It's just a money grabbing exercise because clearly the only ones who can own those also own the dotcom
1/05/2021	(blank)
1/07/2019	very few would have known about this cut-off date last year - start of the current financial year is a little more realistic
1/04/2019	Leaving such a long lead time affects far too many new businesses
31/07/2020	To make sure people not monitoring the sector become aware of their options
31/12/2039	Do not regulate
30/10/2039	There is no way in hell you should be doing this at all. If it's not commercial there are .org.au, .gov.au etc. Dropping the com is just an invitation to bad acting and disadvantaging companies who are unaware. Pretty sure my workplace missed this! e.g. squatting
1/01/2020	(blank)

1/02/2019	Current cut-off date is two and a half years before the launch. I think it's too long. One of the reasons is that out of new businesses created in 2017, 2018 statistically over 30% will fail by the time launch comes. 2.5 years is a long time in business. A 1.5 years cut-off is more realistic.
12/12/2999	This is just a money grab and an attempt to sell the same real estate again and again.
31/12/2019	Six months should be ample.
11/10/2019	The second level domain registration should be cancelled. It serves no benefit except making every pay to register even more names so no one else does.
1/01/2020	It's gone 2018
31/08/2020	allow this to become known and for legit business to consolidate their positioning
30/06/2019	It makes no difference.
1/12/2018	I don't think many new businesses would have been aware.the original date is a long time ago and it would be terrible for them to miss out on their domain
1/03/2020	First a future date would help. Second, it may create more contested cases but they're legitimate and should be heard.
1/06/2021	Allow one year.
(blank)	<p>Again, you're confusing things for the sake of it. These .au tld's are again irrelevant. However, if you must introduce them the solution for how and when is simple, if a person or business owns the .com.au for a domain then they automatically can opt in or opt out for the .au version. If they want it then it's theirs for life, if they don't then it's free to go on the open market. Most small business owners have no idea what you do or what you represent but if you roll this thing out as you've outline above you'll become.very well known very quickly for all the wrong reasons.</p> <p>It appears this .au concept is a cash grab so in order so if you don't want a PR disaster on your hands I would abandon your this date that date rubbish you've tried to explain above (very poorly I might add).</p>
1/01/3000	First come first served. That's the way the world works
1/01/2019	Because it gives the same 18 month period as the original plan
(blank)	<p>A cut off date doesn't make sense as it still doesn't help multiple participants in the same category. Priority should be simple based on who was registered first.</p> <p>If a newer owner requests the domain the older owner should be notified with a month to claim it. Priority should end after 6 months.</p>

30/06/2020	If you're granting priority, just simply make it earliest first registration.
12/10/2019	(blank)
4/02/2019	Launch date has moved forward a year from mid-2019 to mid-2020, so it only makes sense for the cut-off date to also move forward a year.
1/01/2020	6 months out from the launch date is sufficient
1/07/2019	(blank)
31/01/2020	It still allows sufficient time should the domain be contested without overly penalising newer businesses.
31/10/2019	U will get people profiteering and people will lose their domains
4/10/2019	It's a bit nearer
31/12/2019	Enable more time for those unaware of this change to register.
29/02/2020	To allow new business to register
1/07/2019	Closer to the date. Previous date was too far in the past.
31/12/2019	..
1/10/2020	Well, nobody's going to rush to get in if it's in the past
10/10/2020	Give the .com.au owner time
20/12/2019	Wasn't well publicised in the first instance. 6 months lead time is satisfactory.
1/03/2020	I didn't even know about this. People who hold the .com.au license must be give as much time as possible to get the .au
(blank)	Owners should have the reserved right to claim the .au after the release date. Or even have them automatically owned. Very misleading to allow a separate business entity to register business.au when business.com.au already exists.
1/07/2019	Commencement of current financial year
1/01/2020	Because it's about 6 months out from the new launch date. In addition, everyone buying an au domain now now should be automatically notified of this launch and given that option to sign up for priority listing during registration (or in an email after).
1/07/2019	A year is a reasonable amount of time
1/01/2020	Existing cut off date has passed
1/07/2021	The registration if a large number of 2nd level names for generic brands effectively just devalues the .com.au domain and removes from consumers one level of recognisable ID (eg. Net.au or .com.au or

	.org.au). Whilst this is a proposed technical simplification, in reality it will just diversify names structures and provide less consumer value, not more.
4/02/2019	(blank)
29/02/2020	Isn't 2018 already gone?
(blank)	The date when .au domains become available for registration.  Priority should be given to the earliest registrant of the conflicting domain. eg. a.com.au registered in 2009, a.net.au registered in 2010. Priority to purchase a.au should be given to a.com.au.
4/02/2020	(blank)
1/05/2020	Existing xxx.com.au effectively has an anticompetitive Monopoly
1/12/2019	(blank)
1/03/2020	Give new businesses that don't exist yet an equal change
31/12/2020	Gives people 6 months after launch to make sure they get their domain if they want it.
31/12/2019	Allows new businesses to not be disadvantaged excessively by having to register twice
4/02/2019	1 year later!
30/01/2020	As there are new businesses that have formed since then that won't be able to access. Also not enough education was provided about these changes prior to the 2018 cut off date.
28/02/2021	6 months
(blank)	Give existing owners time to register
31/12/2019	How long does it take work these things out?
31/12/2019	Auda could be informing all new registrants from now until the end of the year in conjunction with major domain name registrars.
1/10/2022	(blank)
31/01/2020	Closer to the launch date
1/01/2020	(blank)
1/07/2020	There should be no cut off date and priority given to .com.au
(blank)	No date. Let all interested parties register their interest within the six month period, and then give registration to the interested party with the oldest original domain registration.
1/06/2020	Because it's in the future?

1/01/2022	To give business owners time to catch up. By having the cut-off prior to the rollout you risk domain hawkers
1/06/2021	Cut off date should be after launch. And 1 year feels like a more appropriate time frame instead of 6 months.  (Also why is the date picker date in the American date format? Month/day/year. This is an Australian website)
29/02/2020	There is still little or no awareness in the majority of the public. I've often asked people in various tech forums if they were ready for the .au launch and received blank stares as to what i'm talking about. This should be delayed even further and a proper and wider educational campaign should be invested in first that runs for a minimum 6-12months.
1/01/2020	What is the point if only the businesses with the .com.au variant can have access to the .au variant? All the names will be scooped up and we are back to square one, where you can't register a relevant name because another business who sells the same item or service already has it registered.
31/05/2020	Because it's lazy to make people do things 18 months in advance. Very poor form too.
1/10/2022	Gives opportunity to be notified of and act on the changes
28/02/2020	Still allows people to register their interest. Not enough information about this change in the public domain.
1/10/2039	Dont do it. Its a dumb idea that will only cause grief. There will be clear commercial winners and losers
16/10/2019	I disagree with the premise that custom second level domains are required or desired. Why are you making more work for yourself for no real gain? It's also going to confuse users and potentially lead to misuse or fraud and create a regulatory nightmare. Don't do it!
1/10/2019	New businesses have a better chance of registering for priority
31/03/2020	Why shouldn't it be all the way up to the launch date?
(blank)	Why before?
31/03/2019	Fits more with the intended aim
31/12/2019	To provide the planned 6-month warning. If it looks like the new cut-off date has been abused, then date of registration can be a factor when considering priority.
4/02/2019	(blank)
1/01/2019	A year and a half prior seems plenty to me
1/01/2020	No more than six months before. This is not public knowledge yet

1/01/2020	More time to ensure process is done properly and fairly
1/10/2020	1 year required
31/12/2019	American date format? Really?  Given the delay it would be appropriate to recognize parties that were not aware of second level domains who registered in 2019 by giving them the same option.
18/10/2019	To allow for businesses recently created.
1/05/2019	Give them a year
1/01/2019	Feb 2018 is/will be just too long ago.
2/02/2019	It maintains a similar timeline to that originally proposed
1/06/2019	Any registration older than 12 months should get priority chance for application.  Seems the department wants to maximise the Cash grab and minimise the admin burden rather than act in fairness
1/01/2019	12 month window
(blank)	When were discussions started that 2nd level names would become a thing? Set it before that date. Too many times members of parliament profiteer of things like this - most recently the cashless debit card.
1/06/2020	Public awareness
30/06/2019	Fairer to new companies
23/10/2025	No reason to not have extended period as .com.au a well controlled domain anyway
1/10/2038	Second level names are going to be a nightmare. Many people can't even seem to grok the difference between .com and .com.au, so giving them more opportunities for getting it wrong and guessing are going to lead to more opportunities for fraud, malware, domain takedown requests and the like. It's just an inherently bad idea that only exists to make money for domain registrars.

1/12/2019	more time to publicise
1/01/2020	Six months' notice seems more appropriate, plus this survey is presently being filled out in Oct 2019. It seems counterproductive to give advice about a deadline that passed over a year ago...
30/06/2019	A standard 2-year registration cycle seems fitting... In any case, with multiple domains being eligible, it should just have cascading priorities in favour of older domain holders.
31/12/2019	Cut off date should be moved back in line with the launch date.
31/12/2019	You should protect as many Australian businesses as possible from the multitude of scams and cyber squatters out there.
3/02/2020	Extend the registration
1/01/2020	First in best dressed
31/05/2020	Give as much time to activate the SLN in case of a stuff up
31/12/2018	A cutoff two years in advance of actual launch seems overly cautious and would mean that some domain owners - myself included - would miss out on priority registration for legitimate businesses.
4/02/2019	Keeps the original planned timeframe intact
30/06/2020	Renewals of domains are often yearly, every two years or automatic. Tying it in with end of Financial year sets it at a time when businesses and individuals are doing paperwork, tax, payments etc. it's also easy to remember as a deadline
7/02/2020	(blank)
6/01/2020	because you aren't carving clay tablets... ...you're selling network namespace.
(blank)	This is the VERY first I have heard of it? So if you have not promoted or told .au domain holders about it the cut off is wrong...
1/01/2010	What if both were registered prior to the cut off date?
1/03/2020	Should be extended to be closer to the launch date allowing sites to register for .au
30/07/2019	To accomodate new businesses/organisations who've properly registered for domains after the original cutoff date while allowing for an updated window given the launch has shifted.
31/12/2099	Never. We should not have second level .au domains
1/07/2020	Because people aren't even AWARE of this rule yet
31/12/2039	Second level names should not be introduced.
1/01/2020	Considering the delay to the launch, gives registrants more of an opportunity to register their interest. However it only gives six months or so before the launch.
(blank)	I disagree with having the 2nd level names

4/02/2019	The launch date has been delayed by a year , so should the cut off
4/08/2019	I think 6 months prior is sufficient. Things change so quickly online.
31/12/2019	(blank)
1/02/2020	Because you havent got your act together either
3/03/2020	There is too much business activity between Feb 2018 and Jun 2020. The whole idea is an invitation to fraud and scammers, a longer period makes this worse.
30/03/2020	If the rollout is delayed then people won't get their domains created anyway, so extending expressions of interest makes sense
31/12/2019	Six months is a reasonable amount of time for a licensee to build a brand and business of significant enough value that damage may be done to them if they don't have the opportunity to protect their brand. Less than this time, and it's unlikely a licensee has built a great deal of value in their brand. More than this, and the potential for loss on the licensees behalf increases exponentially. The current cut-off of 29 months is almost guaranteed to damage a number of recently established brands and is simply unacceptable.
4/02/2020	2018 is in the past and I'm only finding out about this now?
1/07/2019	This would probably be 12 months before actual introduction
1/02/2019	(blank)
30/06/2020	The process as taken too long, more than 30% of the name space is generally made up of registrations less than 1 year old. It would be tragic if all the new registrants lose out on this opportunity. Set the cut off date to the date the Board actually announce that this is happening (and has been approved by DoCA)
1/10/2018	It would impact my legitimate domain
1/01/2020	About six months. Half the length of registration
1/10/2039	Second level names will lead to confusion with current names. It's a solution to a problem that does not exist.
1/07/2020	Businesses that are unaware of the changes should not be adversely affected by some arbitrary date in the past.
1/10/2038	(blank)
1/01/2020	Because of the launch delay
1/01/2019	New Years is an easy date to remember if you put it in communications for the launch.
31/03/2020	More time needed

31/01/2020	Reasonable timeframe
1/10/2022	(blank)
7/02/2020	4 February 2020. Friday of the week six months prior. Seems reasonable.
1/07/2019	Includes more recent legitimate domains, but still in the past to avoid recent or future profiteering
4/02/2019	It follows the original timeframe set out to mitigate potential issues.
13/03/2020	you need a compensating push out of dates
31/12/2020	(blank)
1/01/2019	Government agencies were actively discouraged from registering multiple domains until recently. This may result in govt agencies having to dispute registrations that should identify them.
1/07/2019	A year out from cut off
1/06/2020	Second level domains are just a money making exercise and really should not be implemented. The cut off date should be the same as the implementation date so new registrants have the opportunity to waste more money on further domain options.
(blank)	Cut off dates are ridiculous and unfair.
1/01/2020	New businesses since 2018
28/02/2020	No reason to cut it off to early.
(blank)	A set amount of time before expected launch of direct reg.
(blank)	There should be no .au at all. We don't need them
1/01/2019	Well the scammers will be creating Australian companies and businesses in anticipation of this move. Legitimate businesses may not be as active.  It's a line...
3/02/2020	(blank)
1/10/2021	This promises to cause confusion and chaos, and from the information given here, auDA clearly do not fully appreciate the scale of the negative impact this will have on the Australian internet domain space.
1/01/2020	More time appropriate
1/01/2020	Because it will capture more of the organisations who should get priority. Many current online businesses simply didn't exist in February 2018.
31/01/2020	For the same reasons the original date was set. If it's been pushed back so should the cutoff.
31/12/2019	enough time before the launch

4/02/2019	1 year delay
14/04/2024	Don't do it at all
1/07/2019	Allows for more wide spread knowledge of this happening
31/07/2020	Right up to and I would suggest six months after the introduction of the .au.  Because the entities that own existing names, even .com should be able to obtain the .au if they are in Australia.
1/01/2020	Six months before, six months after. Fair and equitable notice.
1/06/2020	should be the same date or start of the month when the new 2nd level domain .au become available. don't disadvantage new businesses.
1/07/2022	UK used 2 years and it worked well
1/12/2019	The existing date does not allow new businesses formed to have access to the new domains.
4/02/2019	As the implementation has been delayed by 12 months, it is only fair and reasonable to extend the cut-off date accordingly.
1/07/2020	ANY discrepancy between the launch and the cutoff is encouraging fraudulent or misleading business activity within the sector, and also encourages and empowers the use of bully tactics against smaller business by organisations intent on scamming the domain system for financial gain. No time should elapse at all between the two events. If it does, it shows you up as being nothing more than an agent of the corrupt right wing business lobbies which hold sway over our government in the 21st century. Please do not let this be the case.
1/01/2019	any domain that are used for business should be given priority over parked domains. ideally domain must be at least 12 months old.  ideally, .au idea should be abandoned as it makes no sense and will bring extra cost to existing name owners. current separation of activity types with com.au, org.au etc are better

31/05/2020	To give existing businesses time to work out whether it's worth doing.
31/12/2020	Allow sufficient time to apply once launched as it's not visible to most people at present
31/12/2039	It is nothing but a cash grab and should not occur at all.
1/01/2020	You moved the date. Now it will have been closed for 2 years. Business need to make sure they are ready
4/02/2019	Self interest ;)
31/12/2039	This is just a money grab. We have seen what has happened with the top level with all kinds of names. It provided no value to the business or to the market. The same will happen here.  This will just add additional cost and worry for businesses with no benefit to the market or businesses.  We will just have a whole lot of parked or redirected domains.
(blank)	Later
1/06/2020	Same date as you launch .au.  Stop making lame rules.
1/01/2020	So people don't just register domains under .com.au to have a right to get .au domain
30/11/2019	Because as you said people may not be aware of the cut off time and may have established a successful reputation or business. If the cut off time is too early genuine second level name people may lose out
30/06/2020	cut off needs to move with delay ...
1/02/2019	It mirrors the period originally intended to be allowed. Note, please that the date in the previous box is in American date format, and the date I've nominated is actually February 1st 2019. Please slap your UI designer.
31/12/2019	Seems more appropriate to give some notice to the users of the system
30/11/2019	Because the time period would match the delay extension
4/02/2020	Because setting a date in the past is beyond stupid. I wouldn't that kind of error past a regulatory body, but I assume this is a typo?
1/04/2019	Has anyone with a .com.au domain been notified? I certainly haven't and would have considered applying. If there is a cut off, anyone affected by that cut off should be contacted for practice standards

30/06/2020	Because 4 Feb 2018 is nearly 2 years ago
30/06/2020	<p>This absolutely should not be first come first served. This is likely to bring about all kinds of trademark and licensing issues and auDA will become joined to proceedings.</p> <p>The later date is required as some parties may be more entitled to 2LD than those holding a 3LD.</p> <p>You've built a system around business registration and trade marks, and now your going to make people spend more money to compete for a later right</p> <p>No. That's a breach of white a few laws.</p>

29/02/2020	Did a quick search and the second level info has not been well promoted.  Few more press releases would get the ball rolling
4/02/2019	Move it out a year.
(blank)	No date. First registration gets priority. No exceptions.
1/06/2020	It depends on your stats, what percentage have taken up the chance? I want aware of this new situation.
29/02/2020	There's no need for a huge time gap between the deadline and the go-live date.
1/04/2020	You can't push one date back then not the other
(blank)	no cut off
4/02/2020	Stick with the original 6 Month timeframe.
1/01/2020	(blank)
30/04/2020	(blank)
4/02/2019	Presumably the originally advertised cut-off date would have discouraged potential cyber-squatters from registering third-level domains after 4 Feb 2018. Putting this date later by a year would accommodate new businesses, without opening the .au domain to cyber-squatters.
30/11/2019	Clearly I'm doing an old questionnaire
(blank)	You really need a don't know option guys.
3/02/2020	Consistent with new cutoff date.
(blank)	First refusal should go to .com.au domain owners as they have stricter rules for application and are more likely to be affected than .net.au users
1/04/2020	New people are signing up all the time, and as collecting the priority names its low level of effort, dont lock in older clients only because you dont want to spend another 10 minutes of work.
30/12/2019	I dunno. I'm not an expert. Have never registered a domain and shouldn't be doing this survey
31/01/2020	Your date was arbitrary and so is mine
(blank)	Why should I have to spend more money protecting my domain which has been registered for 20 years. If I choose not to reg a 2nd level someone else can take it and possibly steal my business or make my customers think its me. Never allow them. Its just a grab at more cash.
12/11/2019	If the business owns and has the rights to the com.au then they should have first right of refusal for the .au. Not sure why there is a cut-off date at all. Domains that are contested can be auctioned off between the contesting parties and the funds given to a charity.

1/03/2019	Don't want to disadvantage people registering domains in good faith in the meantime
1/07/2019	One year prior would be more equitable, even if it means more possible duplicate registrants.
4/02/2020	Very few existing domain name holders understand this change and its implications for their IP
(blank)	No opinion on this question, so again please consider this 'no' as an 'unsure'.
1/01/2020	(blank)
1/07/2019	The registrant who registered first should have priority regardless.
4/02/2020	As described above it is about balance
4/03/2020	Give people who missed the original window a chance to get their appropriate registration in, while giving ~3 months lead-in until the revised launch target.
30/09/2018	To allow legitimate newer businesses have priority
1/01/2020	(blank)
16/11/2019	<p>There should be no cut-off at all. Why should a new business be penalised vs an old one?</p> <p>Applicants should be given a period of time to apply, allowing multiple parties to apply. At the end of the application time period, if there is only one applicant then let them purchase the domain.</p> <p>If there is more than one applicant and they all satisfy the rules, then the domain should be sold at auction to the highest bidder of that group. Just like we do when buying houses, if more than one person wants it, then the highest bidder wins. That is fair.</p>
1/02/2020	(blank)
31/03/2020	<p>Because it's not in the past like the current option in this question for a start.</p> <p>Secondly because it gives people a chance to get back to work and deal with their backlog after the new year festivities and reminders can be sent through the first 3 months of the year.</p>
31/01/2020	(blank)
5/02/2020	Because 2018 is in the past

31/03/2020	<p>Because it's not in the past like the current option in this question for a start.</p> <p>Secondly because it gives people a chance to get back to work and deal with their backlog after the new year festivities and reminders can be sent through the first 3 months of the year.</p>
24/11/2020	Gives time for the impacts to be investigated and explored. 2018 is long gone
1/05/2020	Because we're now in November 2019, so i have no idea why you would even ask about a date set in the past. actually I'd really like to know, so please elaborate. and also, why is this website showing date as mm/dd/yyyy? here in Australia were used to dd/mm/yyyy, right? my email address is Manuel.4u@gmail.com, awaiting your answer :)
1/02/2020	Profiteering can be managed through existing criteria. Including a cut off date from too long ago will disadvantage new businesses and organisations.
2/03/2020	Depends on what take up you've seen vs. what you expected
31/01/2020	I think it is important that the public knows that this change is happening and has a chance to register their interest in a name. At the same time, you will need to understand your level of capacity to deal with more registrations and whether this will be possible.
31/05/2020	(blank)
1/12/2019	More time for new businesses to register
1/01/2020	This allows healthy competition to still exist. Conflicts of second level domain should be resolved in order of priority from the oldest purchased domain name with disputes to be initiated within 1 month of cutoff date and implementation to occur immediately after discerning oldest established domain registration.
31/03/2020	Needs to be close to launch date to protect rights of existing holders
1/02/2020	<p>This policy already acts against the interest of startups and others who have recently established an online presence. Having that date as close as possible to the implementation would be best.</p> <p>And, regardless, if the name use guidelines are being policed properly, then the risk of people buying domains for later profit should be reduced.</p>
(blank)	<p>A lot of legitimate businesses have been formed since feb 2018.</p> <p>This cut off date of feb 2018 leaves it wide open to exploitation and legitimate businesses held to ransom having to buy their own names under .au</p>
31/05/2020	I didn't even know about this until now. 2018 is a long time ago :/

4/02/2020	Give everyone the opportunity to register but I recommend that they register with a business registration number or an ABN.
(blank)	Move it forward to the same amount of time before the launch. Presumably the reasoning for the original time difference is still valid.
31/07/2019	I wasn't aware of this proposal. I registered my .au name in July. I am now concerned that someone else may try to take it. Very concerned.
30/11/2019	(blank)
1/01/2020	I didn't know this
(blank)	None
4/02/2019	More people will have potentially registered since then.
1/01/2050	deadlines are irrelevant and an imposition .. principles don't change in relation to human rights and freedom of speech
1/07/2019	Because a day too far in advance of the launch date would disadvantage newer businesses
1/07/2019	<p>Unless the announcement had been made before this date (giving profiteers the chance to make moves). I am not aware of the announcement date.</p> <p>But if the announcement happened after 01/07/2019 then I think it is better to have the date a little closer to mid 2020.</p> <p>I have worked with many clients of legitimate businesses who have registered new domain in the last 12 months.</p>
4/02/2019	If you're moving the end date then you short move your 'determination date' too.
28/11/2022	Gives people more time to find out how may impact them
31/12/2039	NEVER!!!... THEY SHOULD BE AUTOMATICALLY ASSIGNED AND NO OTHER COMPETITOR SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO COMPLY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
1/01/2020	6 months later
4/02/2020	(blank)
31/03/2020	3 months before
1/07/2019	<p>If you have the .com.au your going to want the .au one.</p> <p>A successfully website started in February 2018 should have priority to get the .au extension to protect its market.</p>

1/05/2020	I don't think a reserve right is needed.
29/02/2020	Cut off date is in the past
8/02/2020	2018 has already passed
1/03/2020	Allows people to consider what they want to do closer to the launch
1/01/2007	Because the person that registered first should get the domain name.
(blank)	Why just pick a date? What other process is in place to resolve conflicts?
31/05/2019	2018 is too early for something happening in 2020
1/03/2020	Because I will be registering a new domain very soon and until reading this was unaware of the changes ( and I presume extra costs involved).
31/01/2020	many are still unaware if this and it may have been open to abuse  it should remain at 6 months before implementation and be after the end of year holiday period
28/02/2020	Allows greater expression of interest, especially as more people become aware of second level domain names due to the impending launch.
1/07/2020	If it doesn't give you sufficient time to even proof-read your own question then it doesn't give others appropriate time, either.  Oh, and this is an Australian survey for Australian domain names but you're using a US date format.
(blank)	Not sure
4/04/2019	It's your fault. Fix it.
1/12/2019	Fairer
4/02/2019	(blank)

## 7. Second level names implementation: The 'lockdown' allocation model

Where there are multiple eligible applicants for a second level name whose existing names were created before the "cut-off date" (currently 4/2/2018), the matching second level name is only allocated at the agreement of the applicants. This is known as the "lockdown model".

e.g.

Louise has getyour.com.au created on 10/10/2016

Tina has getyour.net.au, created on 04/01/20 17

Both can apply for the second level name getyour.au, but need to agree between themselves who gets it.

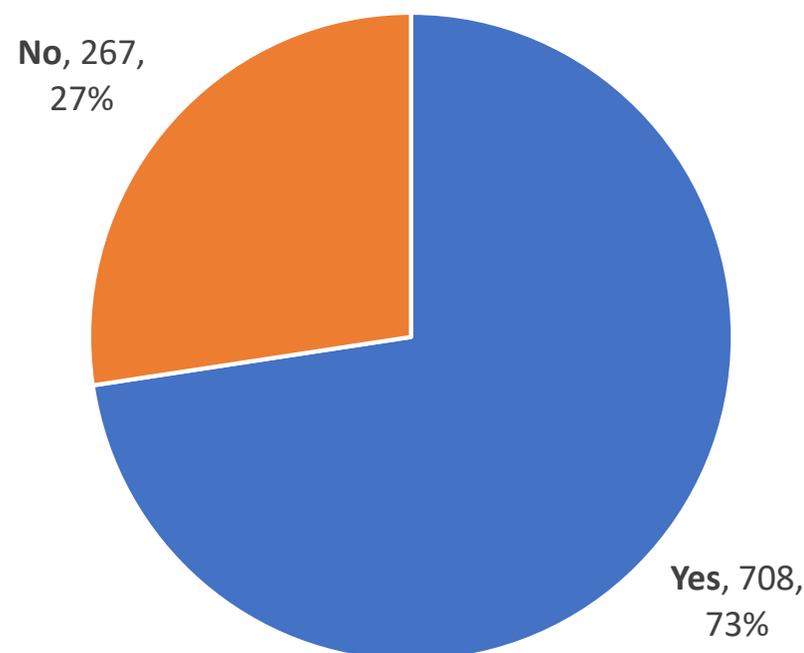
If no agreement is reached, the second level name remains 'locked'. Applicants are required to maintain their application via a yearly renewal.

The second level name remains 'locked' until only one applicant remains in the process.

A key principle of the .au domain is that domains are available on a on a first come, first served basis.

The lockdown model attempts to protect the interests of existing registrants to maintain public confidence and trust in .au, but as a result may negatively affect new entrants to the .au domain.

### Have we got the right balance between protecting the interests of existing and new registrants?



If “no” - What changes should we make to create a better balance?

<b>What changes should we make to create a better balance?</b>
Locking the domain doesn't end the conflict and could just end up in a perpetual stalemate, auda should prioritise the oldest domain holder in these cases
<p>allow those who want the domain name in .au. Examples can be that if somebody owns a shorter name like jd.org.au or kb.co and they want the .au extension, then there's other people who that dream of having their own domain name, then give them the chance and opportunity to purchase the domain name for themselves.</p> <p>so if they're going to be keeping these domain names for themselves &amp; they're not using them and then they're selling them as a money making adventure, why not give someone else a chance to buy an actual domain they really want.</p> <p>so for me I would actually love to have the domain name kb.co but for me it's way to high &amp; expensive in my budget at \$75,00 which I think is utterly ridiculous.</p> <p>so if I could purchase the domain name of my dreams then that would be fantastic &amp; an opportunity of a lifetime for me to so do!</p> <p>I don't think it's very fair that if people already have a .com.au or .net.au or .org.au domain name or a .com, a .net or a .org they should be allowed to buy additional .au domain names for themselves being so selfish &amp; disrespectful, when there are already desperate people who want to get their hands on some of these domain names for themselves who are selfless and respectful to others who would like to accomplish a dream goal for themselves and just own a domain name in their own name or initials if they can do so! thanks for that!</p>
You should not have allowed the registration of .net.au names in isolation
Whoever registered the domain first should get the option of registering the new level domain or 'passing' and allowing the second person to pick it up. So in this instance Louise should have first right of ownership.
Would think it should be the first registrant (oldest) gets to choose first, then on to the second if they don't want it, then on down the line. ie first come, first served. eg 1 ) Louise has getyour.com.au created on 10/10/2016 2) Tina has getyour.net.au, created on 04/01/2017. Tina's registration would have considered that Louise had the domain first, and maybe copying service, and unfairly disadvantages the original brand/domain of Louise's. Some automated services seem to offer that you can buy similar url when you search comes up with nothing.

<p>Don't proceed with second level domain exclusivity. It will be a major cost and inconvenience.</p>
<p>A clause needs to be added stating that if the domain that makes them eligible is no longer held at that point they loose the right to lock that domain.</p> <p>E.g. if I owned example.com.au then lost the registration I would loose the ability to lock example.au</p>
<p>I suspect you will set a high price. Alternative model is to hold an auction to find the highest price one of the two contenders is prepared to pay. If no bids then lock it.</p>
<p>Have people pay for domains that work, not introducing more ways for squatters to make domain names more scarce and thus more costly.</p>
<p>While this sounds like a great idea that should apply in the majority of situations, I think there needs to be an option to request arbitration (for a fee), whereby if one of the applicants holds a trademark for the name or has been using their au domain for significantly longer, there would be room for special/limited exceptions to the rule.</p> <p>For example, if Louise had owned ThisExampleBusiness.com.au since 2003 and owns a valid trademark for "This Example Business", while Tina had owned ThisExampleBusiness.net.au since 2017 and does not have a trademark, then there should be a way that Louise could argue the case that he be able to register the .au variant despite it being contested by both parties.</p> <p>As its hard to set exact rules on something like that, and it isn't the sort of thing you want everyone to do, a 'you better be serious that you want to argue this' fee for lodging an arbitration request would be necessary. There also needs to be some degree of discretion given to those making the decisions, so that they can weigh the need/merit of the case.</p>
<p>AUDA should not profit from the "lockdown" process.</p> <p>No new applicants can be permitted once the "lockdown" has commenced.</p> <p>After 2 years of "lockdown", a successful applicant will be drawn by an independent official using the following process: Each applicant will get 1 ballot in the draw for each year (rounding to the NEAREST whole number of years) their qualifying domain was registered PRIOR to the application cut-off date. So, an applicant with 1 year and 200 days will get 2 ballots, while an applicant with 150 days will get zero ballots. The ballots will be randomised and then 1 will be drawn and the owner of that ballot will be declared the successful applicant.</p>

<p>Leaving the domain parked until somebody forgets about it is reprehensible, lazy, and profiteering. AUDA is not acting in good faith, simply for profit - this process likely guarantees that the .au second level domain will remain largely unused with contested domains and will lead to a lack of public trust.</p> <p>There should be a mandatory resolution, perhaps based on actual utilization of the domain - e.g. number of hits or size of customer base of business- or simply a higher bid to win.</p>
<p>Louise should get the .au domain.</p> <p>The .au domain should be locked only if the registration date is the same, and both wish to register the relevant .au domain.</p>
<p>Lockdown model is silly and leads to a stalemate until one party forgets to renew their application or doesn't want to pay for it (advantages whoever is more liquid).</p> <p>The problem should be resolved by arbitration and if a resolution is not possible by the first registered applicant.</p> <p>But why is second level domain registration even a necessary thing? .au has forever been very nicely partitioned at the 3rd level by not having 2nd level domains. .com.au has been around so long it's synonymous with commercial entities operating in .au</p> <p>Really the problem lies with the US taking .com/.net/.org/etc for themselves instead of partitioning to .com.us etc. But that's a consequence of a young internet.</p>
<p>First to register seems like a better idea to me.</p>
<p>It is ok but make sure you aren't charging them</p>

<p>Again.</p> <p>It's a money grab.</p> <p>I have had to register a plethora of names to protect my business. This is just more.</p> <p>Dougwordclocks.com</p> <p>Dougworkclocks.co.uk</p> <p>Dougwordclocks.cn</p> <p>Etc etc etc.</p>
<p>who had their domain first</p>
<p>Please consider either a points system (registrants with the most points ultimately gets the name), or a hierarchy of eligibility (if two or more registrants are equally eligible by the first criteria, then the second criteria is 'x'... if they're still level, then the 3rd criteria is 'y', etc.)</p> <p>Factors to consider are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Matching business name?</li><li>2. Matching registered trademarks?</li><li>3. Other?</li></ol>
<p>Do NOT allow direct registration of 2LD. This is nothing but a money-grabbing exercise. There's no good reason for it.</p>
<p>In the example given, the registrant who registered their original domain first should be given priority. This complied with the key principle of 'first in, first served' in all cases.</p>
<p>You are close on this one however for domains on lockdown I don't like the jdea.of having to apply on a yearly basis as there's too much that can go wrong. I would permanently lock the .au until either the parties agree as to who will get the domain or until one of the 2 existing domains expires.</p>
<p>Don't get involved in commercial business you clearly don't understand.</p>

<p>Louise should get priority. If Tina requests the domain, Louise should be notified and have a month to respond or Tina gets it. If a new player comes along, both Tina and Louise should be notified. Locking just complicates everything.</p>
<p>Do not allow second level. If I register .govv.com.au</p> <p>Then I can get .govv.au</p> <p>That could lead to misdirect and man in middle attacks.</p> <p>That is bad for both security and anti terrorism.</p> <p>FYI I work as an architect and work in endpoints and security roles for a very large MSP (in AU and globally) and at a professional level, custom second level domains are an extremely high risk idea. I have also done vulnerability and penetration triage to close holes in products with 100 million + users. Eg steam vulnerabilities from privileged escalation attacks.</p>
<p>The .au will not be popular.com.au will always be king. Why impose silly rules, after all you can register a .net.au or a .io or .com get with the times.</p>
<p>earliest initial registration unless the offer is declined, in which case it's the next earliest etc</p>
<p>Cut Off date is irrelevant. Oldest registered domain has first priority and if they decline to pick up option next oldest has the option and so on.</p>
<p>There should be a three year lockdown limit, after which the name is released onto the open market.</p>
<p>Don't introduce a new top level domain.</p>
<p>The registrant who licensed the domain earliest should get priority</p>
<p>It may not be viable for someone to re-enter every year for a domain name. Adding an additional indicator of state (eg .vic.au or .nsw.au) may be sufficient to allow for multiple entities contesting the same.au domain. Logically most large companies who operate across multiple states would have lodged a nationwide copyright and therefore have legal grounds for the rights to the name.</p>
<p>.com.au holders should get preference. This is the major dominant name, and thus holders should have the first right of refusal.</p>
<p>It is unheard of to have 2 Competing parties come to an agreement. Imagine a real estate auction that would only sell the property if the bidders agreed on their own who would win.</p>

No other country in the world has used this model.
I will support a Class Action Lawsuit against auDA and Individual Directors on this.
Should include a test that the applicant actually uses the domain name and is not just squatting
I don't know if the locking is sensible... it seems ridiculous
Should it maybe just be who has held the registration the longest?
First come first serve in the first instance instead of lockdown is better. People's lives are in limbo otherwise.
Arbitration
The person with the oldest domain should get first opportunity. The second can apply if the other doesn't want it.
There should be additional steps that the applicants can take to prove who should own the domain. First use of the matching domain would be a good start, owning a business name or trademark would be another. Expecting competitions businesses to "work it out" is fraught with issues and open to bribery and other means.
Most active account should get priority
The earlier registrant should get the second level domain. If they choose not to accept the offer, it should be offered to the next earliest etc.
"A key principle [sic] of the .au domain is that domains are available on a on a first come, first served basis."
Why not follow your own key principal?
Check intended use, as this can block competition
Are you providing mediation for parties? You're driving people to court to fight over the domains. It'll be messy. Suggest you have a points system. Eg Extra points for the the older domain, the older business, the existence of a trademark. Extra points for site traffic?
Would like to see something in place to protect future profiteering. Costs for domains could be prohibitive for smaller businesses to maintain two just to ensure someone doesn't try to pose as them
The older registration should have priority
Reevaluate who actually has the rights to the name in the first place.
Too much hassle
Com.au takes precedence based on the criteria that the business holding the name meets the legal requirements of using the com.au. For example, updated Whois data matching ABN details etc...
Need a better way to establish who should get the second level name rather than simply locking it away until only 1 is left interested. Could be locked for years... Maybe where more than 1 apply, double the first-year registration fee. If all still want it, triple it. If all still want it, a random choice mechanism. Definitely should NOT be richest wins though.

let the first registrant have priority. If I've held the domain longer than the holder of alternative version, then I should have preference
The older / longer established TLD should get preference.
there should be an arbitrated way to allow the applicants for second level names to have the issue resolved. Otherwise, some domains may stay locked forever
Remove the holding fee. Why pay a fee when you get nothing?
This model takes for granted that both parties will be aware and apply, what if one does and the other doesn't? It is blackmail to force someone to apply with the else/or someone else will get this name and cause more confusion and potential damage to your brand and business.
If no one of the two preferred companies want it keep it open to all
An adjudicator should be allow to release to domain to a business owner should they find the other party is attempting to park the domain for profit, or is not using the domain for business representation or e-commerce purposes.
The first-come-first-served rule seems simple and fare
Scrap the entire system of second level names, the uptake will be negligible and no discernible benefits are or will be derived from the existence of these domains.
Unused .com.au domain owners should not have first right to the .au over a trademark owner
Domain should go to first applicant that applies and meets criteria
There needs to be a process for new entrants to challenge the first come, first served approach. This approach is unfair to young people - it advantages established businesses who will generally be more wealthy. First-come might stay as the 'default' approach, but other factors should be able considered if a new entrant requests it, such as the activity of the businesses applying for the domain name (eg. could be based on annual turnover, number of clients/customers the business serves) rather than *only* the longevity of the business.
That's a stupid solution. Neither party will give up and you're just taking money for no reason. In this case, you are the ones profiteering from it
Yeah because that always works. If you can't agree then nobody gets it is an extremely churlish approach. Sort some rules out. It's not that hard.
There should be no renewal fee to maintain the application however the registrants must confirm their interest in maintaining the lockdown process
Earliest third-level registrant should have priority.
There should be a basic arbitration process that can resolve these conflicts. Obviously need a fairly tight set of rules and there are potentially many confounding factors.

Don't allow second level custom domains!
Keep it simple, stick to first come, first served basis. No locking needed.
so in the situation where neither party agrees, both parties must continue to pay a renewal fee for the application? extortion. The only thing that should unlock the deadlock is agreement between the parties or the lapsing of the third level domain registration. Otherwise, lockdown.
There needs to be some sort of independent arbitration available to address obvious and not so obvious domain camping that can cause the ongoing lockdown. Some guidelines need to be introduced to ensure that there is some weight given to domains with RELEVANT activity
The domain should wildcard redirect http/https traffic to a landing page explaining that the domain is in lockdown mode, possibly listing the competing domain holders.
During this time, WHOIS information on all competing parties must be correct and valid. If the WHOIS data is obfuscated, they can have their claim to the locked domain invalidated.
Depends how much a renewal application costs, if anything
There should not be any introduction of second level names for .au. There is no good reason to introduce this, apart from trying to make more money and flooding the .au namespace with imitations and invalid domain ownership.
Leaving the decision to applicants in the first place does not seem helpful. Regardless, there could be a second step to resolve allocation - e.g. a simple weighted decision process - length of time business or original website established, no. of visitors to website, importance to livelihood. If this fails, the allocation is open on a first come, first served basis (providing have shown connection to name).
Send like big business could simply keep reapplying to adversely affect smaller businesses
The oldest registrant should be given priority if an agreement can't be reached.
Owner of the .com.au should take precedence over any other form.
I don't believe in opening up the second level in the first place.
The .au domain should be allocated to whoever has held the third level domain name the longest.
Dot com.au names should have first option, dot net.au second.
Where original applicant is not using a domain name for an actual business (eg. no website, host advertising, links for affiliate products, advertising only for multiple other products) they should not have any ability to claim the .au second level domain. Actual businesses using a website directly as part of their operations should have priority.
I cannot think of anything specific better, but I do not like the indefinite lockout of names with people requiring to remember to re-apply yearly
It's still a shockingly bad idea to allow it in the first place. Recant it entirely.

O
In such a case, priority should go to longest holder of eligible name.
First come first served. There should be some rules in place to determine who is eligible, and it shouldnt be locked out.
Where there is a conflict, the 2nd level domain should be offered to the original .com.au or .net.au registrant first with 90 days to accept the offer. If the offer is not accepted in this period, it is offered to the next registrant in line.
Should be offered to the earliest registrant of the name
Offer a bidding service, the highest bidder wins
Should be weighted to business with exact match name. The existing squatting will just continue unless new second level allows exact match business to take preferences.
Should be based on the first registered domain I. The example that would be the. .com.au
.com.au is in vast majority of cases the first to be registered and for a reason. Other come after and couldn't register the .com.au thus should not get priority or ability to block first comers. This should be done on a first refusal to the first registered domain.
This is too quick to leave it up to the individual to work it out. Other factors such as use, web presence, establishment of business, brand recognition come into play.
There should definitely be an ability for one person to request the other to relinquish, but this current proposed method doesn't seem to protect against those who buy up domains and sit on them for \$xxx
getyour.com.au and getyour.net.au should never have been allowed to be owned by separate people in the first place.
This system of maintaining a yearly renewal to not relinquish any rights seems like a way of getting more money for no gain from the two holders you have deemed have a right to it. The fairest would be giving the first person to register their domain the first right of refusal, then offering it to the second before putting it on the open market.
That being said, opening up .au and allowing confusion to develop from .net.au or .com.au addresses leading to different sites seems like a way to get more money out of the community. As a consumer, it would be far easier to know that 'Australian company' has its website at any variation of australiancompany.com.au, australiancompany.net.au or australiancompany.au and isn't compelled to by every domain name that someone else dreams up. If someone can just create another variant and says "buy the rights or your competitor will", that sounds a lot like extortion.

It should reflect copyright/trademark only. If a plumber wants plumber.com.au but someone else gets it, who cares. It's only if its FredJonesPlumbingServiceInSydney.com.au that Fred Jones should have a right to it.
You are going to have squatters jumping on .net and others just to get .au even when they are not entitled. How do you plan to deal with claim jumpers, who only have a monetary interest?
Cancel the whole thing
Should be given to the longer holding one - generally the .com.au one - provided it has been in full use since their registration date
This process seems utterly 'stupid'. Yes, I spelled that wrong because it is exactly as it is. In some instances there will never be an agreement, and as a result no-one will get to use it. People will forget to renew and the other people snaps it up.
stop .au registrations. Stupid ass cash grabbing stakeholder worshipping morons.
I think other factors needs to be looked at and not just who registered the domain first. Factors such as continuity of use and brand presence could be considered.
People could lock out legitimate new players
Don't introduce 2nd level names
Stop. Au is a useless money grabbing scheme.
Get rid of the lockdown model, allow both new and existing registrants to register second level domains, any branding issues can be resolved thereafter
The order should be when they were registered - who was first in Australia. Why should i argue with someone who who registered years after I had my name.
As if I know
There are plenty of domains which are currently parked, or have no NS... these domains should have lowest priority of all.
What is the process to contest a domain, if a national peak body or corporation doesn't have the same matching domain name as the one they want to register, but still has the right to register such a domain under the current guidelines.
i.e. Netball Australia might have netballa.com.au. They aren't entitled to register netball.au as priority, would need to register netballa.au however they have an entitlement for netball.au as the Australian peak body / sports representatives. Etc...
"need to agree between themselves who gets it" seems to be a cop out on policy by a policy-making body.

.com.au should have priority over .net.au
Use it or lose it.
A yearly fee will allow those who don't necessarily deserve the name to simply outbid, or out wait the other party. Maybe call it the Bunnings model instead of the lockdown model. If date of application is used to prioritise ownership I believe it gives the person who came up with the idea first priority.
Com.au holders should be given first preference for obvious reasons
Don't charge for keeping it locked, it's a money grab
No auDA should not charge any fees
No other country in the world has
I will join a class action against auDA and personally against Directors on this
Give the .au domains to the com.au holders like they have done in other name spaces.
Louise should get first chance being first registered if she doesn't want it Tina should have a chance. If neither want it then it becomes open. The lockdown proposed is crazy and would make .au seem a bit silly.
Renewal of application should be free.
Com.au take priority
Stop the introduction of direct registrations.
The model is fine if there is NO cost for the application. It's ridiculous to keep charging fees for a service that's not usable to any of the parties, and will give the appearance of an easy money-grab for auDA.

<p>".net" was originally intended for ISP's and other internet infrastructure providers. ".com" was intended for commercial operations and is the default general use.</p>
<p>1. where getyour.com.au was registered before .net they should get the option to use or its lock.</p>
<p>2. where getyour.net.au was registered first they should have to show cause as how their business meets the original purpose of .net</p>
<p>2.1 if .net cant meet this requirement; .net must show its primary commercial user of the domain</p>
<p>2.2 it meets fails the above test, then its locked.</p>
<p>3. if owned by parent/child organisations then both must be merged.</p>
<p>If the principal is first come first served then Louise should get it as her domain created date is older. Making them come to an agreement who should get it is a bit unfair. The only time you would need to do an agreement is when the created dates are the same.</p>
<p>Not sure. There must be a way to have the .au get into the public. Earliest prior domain would seem a good option. It is likely that the .net.au domain was only registered because .com.au had previously been registered and they are already freeloading off the original</p>
<p>The applicant with the thrid level domain name which was created earlier should get priority.</p>
<p>whoever purchased the domain first should be granted priority if it is not taken, otherwise first to file.</p>
<p>Good, though I hope there is an appeal system for the case that someone is squatting (with a vaguely legitimate site) in this manner</p>
<p>It was stupid to have differences like .net and .com in the first place. It just confuses consumers. Tina was an asshole for registering the .net.au domain name when there was already the .com.au one in existence. Give Louise priority.</p>
<p>if the existing registrants vant be bothered or are not interested. there is little point in inconveniencing new entrants.</p>
<p>Once a year has past, pop it on the open market like any deregistered domain</p>
<p>Don't implement the shorter .au domains.</p>
<p>Priority claims</p>
<p>Lockdown won't work, people will just lock each other out</p>
<p>I don't think this will impact me personally, but I'm a stubborn cunt. If there was a domain I wanted that was in lockdown, I would string it out for years and years just to ensure the other prick doesn't get it.</p>

There should be no .au
Scrap the proposed .au domain would be a good start, most businesses see this only as a money-grabbing opportunity and of no benefit to their business
Get rid of .au
Use the first registered date to allocate i.e. whoever held the name longest.
If there is a .net.au and a .com.au both existing before the cut off, surely an easier solution is to give the lay to the site that's existed longer.
.com.au should have precedence as a the more desirable and commercial domain, rather than .net
The fact that all of the network providers use a .com or .com.au domain, rather than .net underscores this reality
If both parties apply in the first week of going live with these .au domains, then your idea is ok, but if I apply for one and the other competitors don't then that is their loss and I should not have to compete for it. The fact that I have a .com.au means I got there first anyway.
The existing website that has the most visitors should get priority here.
Open for everyone. As it is for other domains. If you miss out you miss out.
that is not a great way to manage it
Don't do it
Go back and re-visit this statement and its application... "If no agreement is reached, the second level name remains 'locked'.
Applicants are required to maintain their application via a yearly renewal." There needs to be a better way to bring this to a resolution. What if both parties have equal legitimacy to the second level name? Letting them 'duke it out' is not appropriate, especially for the small guy who has equal legitimacy to big guy. The smaller people rely on this integrity, and brand recognition and it's auDA responsibility to look after this group. Which raises the question.... Why would you introduce a second level name that has the potential to cause a great deal of harm to businesses? Technically it is feasible, however, philosophically it has the potential to ruin people's livelihoods.
As mentioned, first in best dressed. The first applicant of the progress should not need the consent of the second applicant. There should be an appeal process where of there is a malicious use or cybersquatting performed by the first applicant, the second applicant must show that this is the case and also their own interest in the 2LD.

<p>You day first come first served basis, that would mean that regardless of what date each of them applies for the .au, that Louise would have to get the .au - if Louise does not want it then and only then would it go to the next person to register the getyour</p>
<p>No freezing would be required.</p>
<p>Give precedence to whichever domain was registered by it's current owner first. In the given example Loraine would have precedence over Tina as her domain was registered first.</p>
<p>No easy answers here. I am cautious of intimidation here to break the deadlock. An open mediation process may be helpful as long as it can be as light weight and cost effective as possible.</p>
<p>Consideration should be taken of the appropriateness of each entitlement to the domain. If one application is made in an effort to deny the domain to others for unreasonable grounds or for purposes of restriction of trade or to attempt to unduly profit by trading the name to another entity at a higher price through leverage via similarity to trade marks, etc., this should be discouraged and should be less eligible than genuine need based on existing use of prior domains that create eligibility. If all applications are genuine and have valid and genuine need and interest, then the lockdown approach is appropriate.</p>
<p>Precedent should always win this process. As with a trademark, if I have used getyour since 2015 and the only competing interest commenced using it in 2018, they can get lost, because chances are the second applicant is only riding the success of the first, or engaged in other dubious activity. Your set up favours the criminal, not the legitimate business. You must change this arrangement.</p>
<p>as previous answer. don't fix what is not broken, simply because you can rip off existing owners as they will need to keep one more extra unused domain in addition to their current one. this is the stupidest thing ever to happen in Australian internet space</p>
<p>An arbitration system should be in place not just a wait to see who forgets to register first system. The current situation is disruptive to business.</p>
<p>Wouldn't forcing a mediation and a focus on small businesses and startups be of a substantial benefit here... what happens when a major pollutant such as a coal miner, who owns coalindustry.com.au and has deep pockets, is up against a community group who owns coalindustry.org.au and publishes documents here based on the public interest?</p>
<p>The coal miner will will purely based on attrition</p>

<p>Second level domains are a stupid idea. There is no business benefit and just adding more costs to businesses. Existing organisations will not use the new domains as their customers trust the current domains. It just opens up the opportunity for fraud for no reason.</p>
<p>Businesses already have to consider so many naming options to protect their brand. Having a new wild-west wasteland of names to contend with does not help, and just makes it harder.</p>
<p>Stop overthinking it and release it.</p>
<p>First come, first serve.</p>
<p>If you have second level domain with another au tld, you get priority. Stop with all this crazy nonsense.</p>
<p>Stop making it harder and longer to get to more options.</p>
<p>Give .com.au a priority over .net.au as .net.au is usually used as a second choice when .com.au isn't available.</p>
<p>If the parties can't agree, rather than being locked, Louise should be allocated getyour.au, because she registered getyour.com.au in 2016, whereas Tina registered getyour.net.au in 2017. First-come, first-served.</p>
<p>As an extension to the "first in first served" model, in the case of a contested name, the registrant who FIRST registered the third-level name, which is now a contested second-level name, should have priority for obtaining the matching second-level name.</p>
<p>In the example given above, IF both Louise and Tina want the second-level name, then it should be granted to Louise; if however Louise does not apply for it in the allowed window, and Tina has applied for it, it should be granted to Tina.</p>
<p>Trade mark owners should have an entitlement. This has been completely ignored. Every other release has a sunrise and it seems unreasonable that this one doesn't.</p>

<p>Forcing two parties with competing claims into personal interactions invites bad behaviour. For a regulatory body to suggest parties "sort it out between themselves" is irresponsible. The primary issue is that is necessarily requires the parties to exchange personal details which should be protected.</p>
<p>Competing claims should be assessed by the regulator, based on the earliest date of registration of the prior name, and with some regard to balancing market saturation, brand recognition, and avoiding confusion. With clear avenues for appeal provided.</p>
<p>It is of utmost importance that the regulatory body act as a buffer to ensure that private information is protected, and all correspondance goes via the regulator.</p>
<p>.com.au should be given priority of .net.au</p>
<p>Your imposing a requirement for the parties to seek statutory or judicial decisions at their cost.          Ergo you are Wagon Mound.</p>
<p>first come first served - ie you snooze you lose</p>
<p>The business which is more substantiated or legitimate should have the domain. We own "CarSwap.Me" and a domain squatter registered "CarSwap.Com.Au", which infringes on our trademark, business name, and should NOT have even been allowed to be registered subject to;</p>
<p>2012-04 - Domain Name Eligibility and Allocation Policy Rules for the Open 2LDs</p>
<p>ELIGIBILITY AND ALLOCATION RULES FOR ID.AU</p>
<p>SCHEDULE D</p>
<p>3. A domain name may also be registered in the id.au 2LD under paragraph 2(b) if it refers to a personal interest or hobby of the registrant, but the domain name must not be, or incorporate, an entity name, personal name or brand name in existence at the time the domain name was registered*.</p>
<p>First come first served</p>
<p>I think the earliest registration should get the second level domain.</p>
<p>Just make a decision on who gets it, instead of creating some dumb Mexican stand-off that could go on for years. Make a rule whereby the loser/s in that process have priority to take over the second level domain if the first entity collapses/forfeits it</p>
<p>First come first served. Worked in Canada when .vs was opened up.</p>

First registration gets priority. No exceptions
.com should get priority.
Needs An ombudsman.
The person who registered first for their domain name should have first right of refusal as long as that name is a working business and not just some be registering it in the hopes to sell it later
demonstrated active use of the domain should matter too
This will lock down the most sought after domains which defeats the purpose of adding second level domains. It also requires applicants pay a registration fee indefinitely if they can't come to an agreement resulting in increased costs for existing applicants with no added benefits compared to the previous system. .com.au should be deprecated in favour of .au to avoid confusion. Existing .com.au domain owners should be given first priority to register .au since it's likely .au will become the defacto premier commercial domain.
Its a tough thing to do, especially at this stage where so many domains are out there in the .au namespace. The lockout model may adversely affect small online businesses - say one business buyshoes.com.au sets up an online store, then someone just happens to have the buyshoes.net.au domain that they bought 3 years ago but haven't used. What's to say that buyshoes.net.au won't buy .au, preventing buyshoes.com.au from getting it.
Now that the domain is 'locked' this may drive the small business out of the domain, or out of business completely because they either couldn't get the domain for their online presence, or spent too much money renewing the domain application.
It may be beneficial to introduce a mediator - someone to help settle disputes between domains after a set period of time. I.e if a conclusion is not reached by 2-4 months, then a mediator will contact the parties involved to assist in resolving the matter. Whether they sort out buying out the domain, or some other method is up to the involved parties, and the mediator.
Priority should go to the one who got their domain first.
It would be trivial for a competitor to lock out a domain name simply by disputing it, thereby delaying the competition from using it.
A yearly renewal is cumbersome and may allow a competitor to gain a name by default
They should not be introduced. What if someone entitled to a name does not know about it. Suddenly a neighbouring business is stealing their domain name.
This is a form of extortion with only AUDA benefiting. The matter should be settled via an auction process and then it is settled. If the parties have further disputes then they can settle the matter in court and AUDA can respond to the court order. Once again, AUDA is messing up it's role as both the police and the judge....seriously, get it right please!

Earlier registration has priority. Tying up a domain name for no purpose helps no-one.
The lookout does not seem to help anyone
The company that held the address first should be given the second level address. Why create a yearly battle to try and secure it. Many small businesses do not have the time for this and if they forget to contest they are ruled out. This will result in court cases. If the company that is awarded it closes down, then the next oldest company should be offered the second level address.
Annually paying for a domain you don't own seems pretty dodgy. I have no suggestions here. Maybe it is the best solution from a bunch of worse ones.
If they cannot agree who wants it/is willing to pay the highest number, release it for general consumption.
Where multiple people want a second level domain during the initial offering, and all of them satisfy the criteria for that domain, they should bid at auction for it and the highest bidder wins. After the initial offering it should revert to first come, first served.
Sounds like a money-generator if I ever heard one and is really dirty.
Create a first-purchased option to buy with earlier cut off. Then open it up to the rest. Let's face it, people who got their brand and .com.au first could get really screwed by this.
That "backlist" "waiting list is basically authorised governmental theft and whoever came up with this is a diabolical thief and unethical arms dealer.
This could mean domains locked indefinitely. Create a lottery/raffle system in these cases and winner receives the domain name
Public ballot
The similar names creates confusion and makes it easier to be scammed
The one created first should get first opportunity.
Process should consider if the existing domain is being used in alignment with the domain name. Dormant domain names should be given less weight.
Priority should be given to the first to register.
Also, you had a typo on principle and I assume you didn't write this on a phone like I did. Clean it up.
Domain should be afforded higher priority to the older registration with a 'queue' established for if the domain becomes available, the queue order to remain in order of oldest registered domain name.

<p>This system will just benefit richer owners, maybe add some random selection to resolve disputes after a while, and add criteria to prioritise real businesses over domain monetisers</p> <p>Also, don't launch second level domains they are dumb and don't help the internet community</p>
<p>It should be the same as exists for other domains - first in gets the name. What if 3 people are eligible and want example.com.au - today the first one gets it. Same should be the case for example.au</p>
<p>another criteria should be that they must be active domain names, that is, actively be being used for the specified purpose. If not, then they are removed from the lockdown list leaving only the 'active' domains.</p>
<p>Rather than a lockdown, why not give the example.au domain to the site with the most traffic</p>
<p>The could be one small hole in the Cat 1 and Cat 2 applications. Consideration should be given, in the case where several domains were registered on the same date with the same name by several different licences, that the owner of the greatest number of domains be awarded the .au rights. If their is no majority owner, then negotiations are entered into.</p> <p>It is highly unlikely, but it may just settle any of those "left field" situations. There are millions of domains names across all categories. Therefore, there is a chance of it occurring.</p>
<p>Can't see that this plan will help me.</p>
<p>Need further info regarding refund of the application fee, how to withdraw within the 12 months rather than waiting for the application to lapse, etc</p>
<p>YOU auctioned one-word generic .com.au names in 2002 for a premium.</p> <p>Now you want to let .net.au owners take the .au because for example a .com.au owner sold a business (at a huge premium than one on a crappy .net.au) and transferred a name to the new owner causing the date to be set later???!!!</p> <p>Hypocrisy.</p>
<p>lockdowns are irrelavent also .. if one pays for a service on the free market then government has no intervention ..      .given their propensity to privatise all infrastucture in any case</p>
<p>I only said no because I'm currently unaware whether .net.au addresses require an ABN. If they do, then my answer here is YES, however, if they do not, then they should be locked out of getting a .au address altogether.</p>

The balance above is very well thought out. I only wondered if there ought to be an appeal process if someone believes the other party has an illegitimate claim that is plain to see. They may never reach an agreement left to their own devices.
Not many people still know about it
Need each applicant to make their case according to how closely they match it. If there is clear profiteering or similar behaviour, that applicant gets cancelled.
After that process completes, remaining applicants must agree or it remains locked.
You lost integrity the moment you let the example above happen. To fix it, Louise should get the 2nd level AUTOMATICALLY and Tina should be forced to change her copycat account if it competes or benefits in any way with Louise's account name... and any fake accounts with GOV in them should be automatically de-registered
No second level domains. Period.
There shouldn't be a lock down process, just a reserve process.
The existing name that was registered first gets priority in case there is no agreement. Dot net dot au names are usually latecomers or copycats of their dot com dot au counterparts
Trademarks and acn/abn should get priority
How do you know if Tina just registered getyour.net to mess with Louise and now Tina is able to lock Louise out of the new domain, this is not consistent with the first come first served principle.
Does the annual application have a fee associated with it? There is nothing preventing these two parties from applying every year and blocking that domain indefinitely. What if a third party appears and wants the same name but the .com.au and the .net.au are both already taken.
How are the two parties supposed to know each other? I don't want my information shared to someone else for the sake of agreeing on who gets a domain.
this should be considered on the merit of an established trusted business with logical claim to the right to have first choice of next tier domain.
'first in' is more likely to benefit illegitimate investors over genuine claim, therefore this method does not benefit trusted ownership
Do you seriously think that allowing people to lock down domain names forever is a good idea? Let the parties attempt to reach a commercial arrangement. If that fails, arbitration or court should be the next step.
.com.au should get priority in this scenario
Priority should go to the domain who was registered first



## Further Comments

Further comments
Force ABR registration data to be available for proof of ownership and date of creation.
Great progress team. Very logical and consistent with the needs of the nation. Thanks
I hope to be contacted & updated in the interests of the circumstances regarding the registration and maintenance of a .au domain name if possible please!
Thanks
nil
Could you consider cost models and declaration of costs upfront of domain registerers eg pay for domain name, pay for DNS, use of website builders, payment of statistics from site, location of files, transfer to other service provider etc. Seems very hard to compare costs and services across providers, and some costs are not known until you start down the path. Also clearer processes to transfer your domain name to another service provider that may be cheaper or even overseas eg website builder services overseas that are free but can transfer your .au to them. Current list of domain register providers on .auDA as when I went through for my site, found some were changed to other companies or didn't exist any more, perhaps include mandate reporting to you to keep list and costs and processes current.
The rollout of second level domains poses some tricky problems, and the proposed solutions seem very good options. Even though there are flaws with the proposal, and some legitimate businesses will fall through the cracks and not receive a domain name they should probably be entitled to, the proposals seem fair on balance. It might be good if there were an active appeals process for conflicts raised in the first 6 months of registrations, however this could become very intensive.

Anything and everything that can be done to make the lives of 'domainers', 'domain squatters', 'domain flippers' and other miscreants that purchase-hold-and-extort domains for profit as miserable and as difficult as possible would be greatly welcomed.

Also, there needs to be a way that web developers can maintain control over a client's domain until the domain/website has been paid off. We recently had a client that owed us \$12,000 for a website and marketing campaign, and they decided not to pay. We suspended their website and emails, but they then performed a reseller split directly with the registrar to take the domain out from our control, then they setup DNS services with another provider and reactivated their emails that way (causing us to lose our leverage to get them to pay their bill). The whole mess nearly ruined us.

The only solution we can think of to solve this is registering client's domains under our ABN while the site is under their 12 month payment plan, then when the renewal is due (and they've paid off the site), completing a CoR to change things across to their ABN.

I don't know how this would fit into the rules of the auDA, and it's certainly not an ideal solution, but if a client hasn't paid for the site/domain, then they shouldn't be able to steal it away from the reseller/web developer. This is no different to saying "you can't walk out of our retail shop without paying for things".

Happy to provide further advice on the matter.

Expansion of 2nd Level domain space was a terrible idea and only advanced by those looking to commercialise. Should have never been approved.

This survey doesn't facilitate the scope of consideration and reasoned discourse the public have come to expect of such important policy change.

At least you're asking, but it should be regarded totally inadequate as far as providing any kind of mandate for a particular course of action on anything.

If a law enforcement agency requests a take down owners should have transparency and a right of appeal.

Second level should be responsible for their entire domain and not be able to lease subdomain. Subdomain should be related to the domain to maintain trust.

Custom second level domains are bad for spoofed websites. This is a critical security risk.

<p>The biggest and best thing you could do for the .au namespace is to think about how to accommodate 25 million of us in about 10,000 households which in the 21st Century should have access to permanent stable cyber identities. jblogs479@gmail.com just doesn't cut it anymore</p>
<p>When can we apply for the .au domains? It's still unclear.</p>
<p>Please allow for Whois protection. Especially for something like a .id.au domain. My physical address should not be accessible to anyone and makes it likely I will not update my details as I move.</p> <p>You're welcome to contact me.</p>
<p>The integrity of the .au Domain provides consumers with greater confidence and this is valuable. To ensure this confidence remains high when many companies are opting for cheaper .com domains, the who is info for .com.au should reflect abn to make it harder for unscrupulous etailers to avoid Australian consumer laws.</p>
<p>Great work gathering public feedback on such a technically as well as economically important topic. In general the authority to grant use of a domain can and shoilmm</p>
<p>Good questions nice survey...</p>
<p>More notification by email on developments in the space including a reminder of when the EOI needs to be done.</p>
<p>The eligibility rules for .com.au/.net.au are very restrictive. Nearly all cctlds have a great secondary domain market.</p> <p>Removing these rules will have a very positive impact on the domain system. There will be a lot of domains that start getting transferred around and there will be great services out there for businesses to search for domains that are available to be bought.</p>
<p>Seeking public comment is great! I'm looking forward to the introduction of second-level domains.</p>
<p>Why is the date picker date in the American date format? month/day/year. This is an Australian website so it should be day/month/year</p>
<p>Thank you for this survey, more of this should be introduced.</p>
<p>If the date for applications is extended, I'd be interested.</p>

<p>Personally I think .com.au .net.au AND .org.au should have option for .au - why isn't org in the mix as most NFP prefer this?</p> <p>Also it should be done by who registered FIRST, not be what extension they have... so if .org.au was registered before .net.au and no .com.au then .org.au should have first dibs, then indicate if they want it by a deadline, then others should then have second chance, then public release.</p>
<p><a href="https://www.auda.org.au/policies/index-of-published-policies/2012/2012-04/">https://www.auda.org.au/policies/index-of-published-policies/2012/2012-04/</a></p> <p>SCHEDULE C SECTION 3.</p> <p>Allowing non related companies to register domain for monitisation allows a level of cyber squatters to exist in australia. Not sure if this is really of benefit to the trustworthyness of AU domains. I like the concept of substantial similarity to the domain and business/trading name. Smaller businesses are not always in a financial position to trademark their names.</p>
<p>You may want to have someone proofread your info and subsequent questions.</p> <p>The number of misspelt words certainly puts a shadow of legitimacy over this whole questionnaire.</p>
<p>Will name.id.au holders be eligible for name.au domains?</p>
<p>It is very disappointing that auDA is considering introducing second level domains for .au. This should be reconsidered and I hope it does not go ahead.</p>
<p>Second level Domains strike me as lacking utility, confusing to end-users, and a fillip for registrars who get to extort companies into registering their own name additional times</p>
<p>Some of the questions were worded in a confusing way. Had to read them several times. Some questions felt as though they were leading.</p>
<p>More efforts still need to be made to reduce domain squatting . Also short second level domains need to be somewhat restricted</p>
<p>Thanks for the updates</p>
<p>Thanks</p>
<p>We need IPv6</p>

<p>The allocation rules are a joke and not applied legitimately. There are loads of offshore resident applicants who use ABNs to stockpile domain names to effectively hold them for ransom. If a registrant cannot demonstrate they are using a website for genuine operations of their business within 24 months of registration (not affiliate advertising), they should lose that domain name registration and be banned from acquiring that domain name again.</p>
<p>The yes/no options with comments only allowed for negative responses was flawed. It's going to give you a false sense of positive feedback when we don't have enough detail to answer fully, or the answer is more complicated.</p>
<p>Arbitrary second level domain names are a bad idea. I prefer to have defined second level domains I can know and trust to be companies, non-profit organisations, etc. Please scrap this profit driven initiative.</p>
<p>Many of these things make Robert Elz sad.</p>
<p>If there is multiple websites that meet requirements for a second level domain, all registered after the 2018 cut off, then the oldest website should get priority to apply for the second level domain.</p> <p>Eg. Tina has example.com.au registered January 2019 and Gene has example.net.au registered March 2019. Tina gets priority to register example.au. If Tina declines or doesn't register example.au within 6 months it is offered to Gene.</p>
<p>Stop over-regulating.</p>
<p>I also feel that we need to make sure that the .au namespace is for Australians only, and not on selling the .au outside of the country</p>
<p>Gov supported authorities, registered charities and medical etc should get priority over the purchase of their .au domain, to keep their current web presence in line and to avoid confusion for consumers</p>
<p>I like having the .com or .gov or .org in an address because it helps me identify the websites origins. The secondary level names will make this more challenging, won't this just mean that the same companies will have more addresses?</p>
<p>There should be abuse prevention standards/compliance requirements, including a requirement to disable domain names within certain time frames of a complaint being made. Failure to suspend domain should result in registrar accreditation being suspended.</p>
<p>I own multiple domains in com and com.au was glad for the survey making me aware of the changes.</p>
<p>Thank you for consulting the community</p>
<p>Interesting and relevant. Thank you for the opportunity to have my say.</p>

<p>.au shouldn't change the requirements of requiring a domain.</p> <p>No funky characters other than the current letters, numbers and hyphen.</p> <p>No second level domains as it will be open to abuse.</p>
<p>Not the view of my employer.</p>
<p>It is disappointing to see that you are implementing the .au domains. There are too many domain extensions to deal with as it is, so adding another just seems like a cash grab to the detriment of businesses who have to pay for this and consumers who have to look even closer at domain names rather than "knowing" that it will end in .com.au.</p>
<p>I do like the requirement of a business to be awarded .com.au, but you can see those who've used say .net.au would potentially be bullied by business when they compete for the .au domains coming from com.au and net.au.</p>
<p>You should NOT be releasing .au domains. It serves NO purpose other than to be a money grab for you and registrars (clearly those on your board directing this move). It's dumb and extremely disappointing to see you guys approve this.</p>
<p>I still think .au should not be introduced, we don't need it and it will fail.</p>
<p>I am glad to hear Australia is coming to its senses on opening up .au directly.</p>
<p>The questionnaire needed some options other than "yes" and "no" and some clearer explanations for it to be fully comprehensible and answered by the typical Australian public.</p>
<p>Hope this doesn't turn out to be a giant mess. Seems like the main thing this is doing is causing businesses to have to buy extra domains they don't need</p>
<p>The whole concept of selling second-level domains seems to be nothing more than a cash grab. It's just one more domain that organisations have to maintain in order to protect their brand.</p>
<p>Why is it needed? This isnt going to open up any more domains but rather mean businesses will purchase more domsins to protect their brand. I strongly disagree with this idea of the new au domains (eg mydomain.au &amp; mydomain.com.au vs only mydomain.com.au)</p>
<p>I can't help but feel that opening up the .AU domain is simply a cash grab and will create more confusion than clarity and certainly more administrative overhead for businesses</p>

Please add to your considerations a "public interest/target impact" test or similar, which looks at the impact/harm caused to the public and/or the target by suspending, cancelling, or restricting access to .au domain names.
There were a couple of typos in your survey, like "on a on a" and a preposition that shouldn't be there.
I think the priority with all Australian web policy should be to maximize startup success and increase our chances of potential new global business.
Protecting the copyright interests of established business is important but can be handled via existing means
direct reg isn't a great idea, but if it's going to be done. At least make sure it's being done right. Close, but not quite all the way there.
I think this survey may need to have provided links to additional materials for the questions to be answered with due diligence.
Thanks!
Thanks for the chance to comment.
Great to hear of these changes. auda is doing a great job at balancing consumer needs, which are strongly valued in Australia, with business needs, which are crucial to growth.
good jobnputting the survey out.
n/a
Is this 2nd level cash grab now inevitable?
Why didn't you ask the public before hand?
The amount of time it is taking you guys to complete this process is ridiculous! Just get on with it!
Responses were "off the top of my head"; they may well prove to be unworkable under more rigorous analysis.

<p>Why did AUDA allow a domain squatter to register our domain name (CarSwap.Com.Au), which infringes on our trademark, business name, and your own policy?</p> <p>2012-04 - Domain Name Eligibility and Allocation Policy Rules for the Open 2LDs</p> <p>ELIGIBILITY AND ALLOCATION RULES FOR ID.AU</p> <p>SCHEDULE D</p> <p>3. A domain name may also be registered in the id.au 2LD under paragraph 2(b) if it refers to a personal interest or hobby of the registrant, but the domain name must not be, or incorporate, an entity name, personal name or brand name in existence at the time the domain name was registered*.</p>
<p>Any move that increases security, and reduces fraudulent domain name use is welcome!</p> <p>This all appears practical and fair.</p>
<p>I support direct registrations but only if .com.au is deprecated in favour of .au and existing .com.au get first registration priority. The current proposed AUDA policy will create consumer confusion and conflicts between .au applicants. The new policy will also increase costs for existing domain owners due to conflicting .au registrations and defensive registrations.</p>
<p>I'd love to see progress made on the .au domain release, it's been too long!</p>
<p>Do make it another grab for cash</p>
<p>I can't wait till .au arrives!</p> <p>Will be a shame for my business though, because .com.au domains are expensive, we went with a .com domain, so I won't be able to register one, at least not till later if it is not bought first by someone else.</p>
<p>Is the id.au namespace included</p>
<p>Thanks for the clear info, and the opportunity for input. I have hopes toward a .au name (based on a trademark), but don't have an eligible 3rd-level domain. I'll have to wait it out and see if it gets taken up by eligible registrants.</p>

<p>This rework is long overdue. The current domain name registration for .au is strongly geared towards businesses and organisations, and ignores the importance of the free exchange of information without having to tie it to one's real name or an organisation. Much of what made the World Wide Web more than a virtual shopping mall, especially in its early days, was based on the volunteer work of individuals and small groups of people who wanted to share something about their interests - this would not have been possible under the current rules.</p>
<p>Your existing rules are fair, but make it very hard for sole traders to register their own *.au domain without having to lodge for an ABN and handle the overhead of an ABN when they do not trade in sufficient volume to justify this. Would be nice to see rules closer to *.id.au</p>
<p>Terrible survey, too many binary choices for complex issues.</p>
<p>I have several .com.au domains for my business interests. I also have some .coms for name protection. I dont want to be forced to have to buy more domain names just to protect my business. If someone was to buy a domain name relating to my business and I lose business, is there compensation?</p>
<p>Private citizens should be able to get domain names</p>
<p>Sadly, as a high profile person in the domain industry and an Australian, I do not recommend anyone invest money into the com.au namespace. Until AUDA sorts out the fundamental nature of its roll it risks making the com.au namespace a backwater on the Internet as the new gTLDs gain a foothold in the Australian market.</p> <p>As a former director and vice chairman of the Internet Industry Association I'd be happy to speak to anyone from AUDA about my thoughts on the matter. Feel free to contact me on 0416 240 302.</p>
<p>I hope you have plans in place to prevent people buying up multiple desirable domain names once this comes into place, with only the intention of being able to sell them later on.</p> <p>This seems to happen a lot in the USA</p>
<p>Good luck! Very excited to get into .au</p>
<p>I would like to see more activity checking into domains where the registrant email is the reseller/IT provider's email. I know we have some with express permission (our billing system sends direct reminders and we call clients expiring too), and a bunch taken on from a reseller who went out of business where we have not corrected all of them yet, BUT with the approach of .au registrations, the owners of these domains will need to be getting notices directly to be in the running, and some of our competitors locally use their email address by default. Could you run a search and notify anyone with more than ?30 domains on an email address? Identifying the domain names they need to</p>

<p>review?? (Totally being lazy because I can spreadsheet an internal list, but identifying repeated email addresses is going to be tough, and my to-do list is already too long.)</p>
<p>Looking forward to owning yindi.au</p>
<p>Fix this.</p>
<p>Be careful you don't become too draconian in your methods.</p>
<p>Fix this.</p>
<p>I don't like the way that direct 2LDs are being used as a cash grab by the domain industry. Auda is supposed to regulate in favour of the community not registrars</p>
<p>Already an associate member</p>
<p>Additional second-level domains are an abomination, with existing experience of new TLDs showing that all they do is increase costs for businesses. The whole concept should be abandoned.</p>
<p>Use a business registration or an ABN to confirm a domain registration. Domains don't have to match the business names but it prevents domain squatting.</p>
<p>Please just make the process fair and seriously tighten up on rouge sellers and domain name holders.</p>
<p>I think you really need to quicken this process of allowing the .au TLD to be directly registered, mid 2020 is a long time. Also please keep the pricing the same as the other TLDs to avoid a mess</p>
<p>The public neither knows nor cares about domain names nowadays (if they ever really did). Nobody (except me and probably a handful of others) ever enters a domain name in the browser address bar. They invariably search google and follow whatever link looks right - with no comprehension of what the domain name itself may or may not mean. Therefore, the subject of this survey is purely of academic interest as far as the web-using public are concerned.</p>
<p>There should be a use it or lose it rule. Too many au site are being cyber squatted. To many times i have gone to register a domain for actualy business and its not being used. There should be active policy of returning domains back to the available pool.</p>

<p>Hypocrites having sold .com.au generics for huge sums at auction and then allowing a weasel clause to give the .net.au owner first rights because of an update to the registrant. Bureaurats in action.</p>
<p>Thank you for this very interesting questionnaire.</p>
<p>All the best for the launch of the new rules!</p>
<p>.</p>
<p>The reason I did not get an AU 20 years ago is because the rules have never been good enough.</p>
<p>Thanks</p>
<p>Existing edu dot au domains should have priority when names clash with dot com or dot net.</p>
<p>Apart from a checkbox that signifies that you agree that your domain name matches your business name or product, there is no verification process at the moment anyway.</p> <p>People can lie on these and say it's ok and it's instantly processed by registrars. If you want to protect the au domain, you would need to have direct registrations and not permit 3rd party registrars, as they do not care about compliance.</p> <p>Take the Scott Morrison domain issue as an example. A third party bought the domain and was not associated to the domain at all.</p> <p><a href="https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/oct/19/scotty-doesnt-know-prankster-takes-over-scott-morrison-website">https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/oct/19/scotty-doesnt-know-prankster-takes-over-scott-morrison-website</a></p>
<p>This is interesting. I nearly did not click on the link as it is difficult to know what is spam.</p> <p>I think you need to contact all domain holders of this directly ( you and/or the agents eg Crazy Domains etc should be able to send this survey to everyone with an .com.au etc domain name. Otherwise what is the purpose of registration?)</p>
<p>please update and or contact</p>
<p>2nd tier domains should not be allowed. It dilutes the power of the existing ones like name.edu.au.</p>

There should have been I don't know options available for some of these questions.
Why .com.au? Why not just somename.au?