

Good Morning,

I am writing this submission in the vain hope that someone in the government will listen to me.

The metadata that you have forced private companies to retain at great cost to themselves (and thereby consumers) should only be available for law enforcement use particularly in relation to terrorism and organised crime. The assertion that this was the sole purpose for retaining metadata was probably the reason that the public grudgingly accepted the data retention laws in the first place.

Also, forcing companies to retain data creates honeypots that would be a popular target for hackers, both organised crime and foreign intelligence services. It is naive to think that companies will have sufficient security in place, particularly since there have been many high profile and high volume data breaches in the last few years at large tech companies as well as government departments which are supposedly well secured.

If the access to metadata for civil suits and other purposes is so significant it should go in its own piece of legislation and be subjected to a lengthy consultation period, and review by the senate. It should also contain a sunset clause.

Opening up access to metadata in this way will have an even higher potential for abuse than the existing data retention scheme, which in my opinion is onerous and unnecessary.

Please consider the points I've made before you let the cat out of the bottle and expose the metadata of an entire country to the civil court system.

Kind Regards,

Daniel Hartwig