

Dear Sir or Madam,

I understand that the government is considering expanding access to personal metadata and is seeking public input.

My view is very strongly that that should not occur. The current meta data regime is essentially a warrantless wiretap on every single Australian. It is a gross invasion of privacy. While an argument may be made for retaining this data in the name of national security, no such imperative exists in the civil realm. To give civil litigants access to national security dossiers on private citizens dangerously tips the balance away from privacy and privileges litigants in a way never before seen.

Please keep the promises that were made when this regime was established. Do not extend access to private meta data.

Kind regards,

Paul Ruberry