Welcome to the MBR Design Working Group – 13 April 2022

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MBR Design Working Group

Wednesday 13 April 2022

Welcome, action items, and program update

Natalie Ross – Assistant Commissioner, ABRS Pipeline & Design

Open action items

Action Items	Status	Who	Action
DWG-34	**Closed**	MBR Program	Provide the DWG members with a long-term program roadmap.
DWG-37	**Open**	DWG Members	Members were invited to nominate high value services which they see as a gap and should be available via API.
DWG-38	**Open**	Eleanor Beer	Share a detailed list of forms to services with DWG members.
DWG-39	**Open**	MBR Program	Follow up further details about any new broker licensing agreements.
DWG-40	**Open**	Naomi Westwood	Raise with Treasury the impacts on DSPs and IBs to onboard to the OSF in relation to the broader infrastructure fee.
DWG-41	**Open**	Kylie Johnston	Demonstrate use cases with examples on uplifting certifications because of a change in API risk rating.

Budget outcomes/Fees review

Tara McLachlan – Director, Law Review and Policy Support, ABRS

Disclosure Framework/ Data Standards update

Tara McLachlan – Director, Law Review and Policy Support, ABRS

OFFICIAL – EXTERNAL

ABRS agent model

Eleanor Beer,
ABRS Intermediaries Experience,
Business Registry Design & Delivery

" Our vision is to be a custodian of trusted business information and a world-class provider of associated services that businesses, governments and communities use to unlock economic and social value for Australia. "

Companies Release

The companies release aims to make company registrations easier and more automated, to support directors, secretaries, ABRS and local agents in doing business in a more simplified manner. The design and build is currently underway and is scheduled for **late 2023**.

Existing companies will be migrated	New companies can register in the platform	Digitised lifecycle via wholesale and retail	One integrated platform to search company data
3m companies ACN and ABN	**280k** new companies registered annually	**17m** transactions annually	**219m** annual searches

About companies release

The Companies release will bring together company records administered by ASIC and the ABR on a contemporary digital registry system. The new business register will be a single, trusted, reliable and easily accessible business registry.

Entity data from the following registers will be migrated to join director identity records on the ABRS platform:

- Australian Public companies (from ASIC)
- Australian Proprietary companies (from ASIC)
- Registered Australian Bodies (from ASIC)
- Foreign companies (from ASIC)
- ABN details of the above public, proprietary and foreign companies (from ABR)

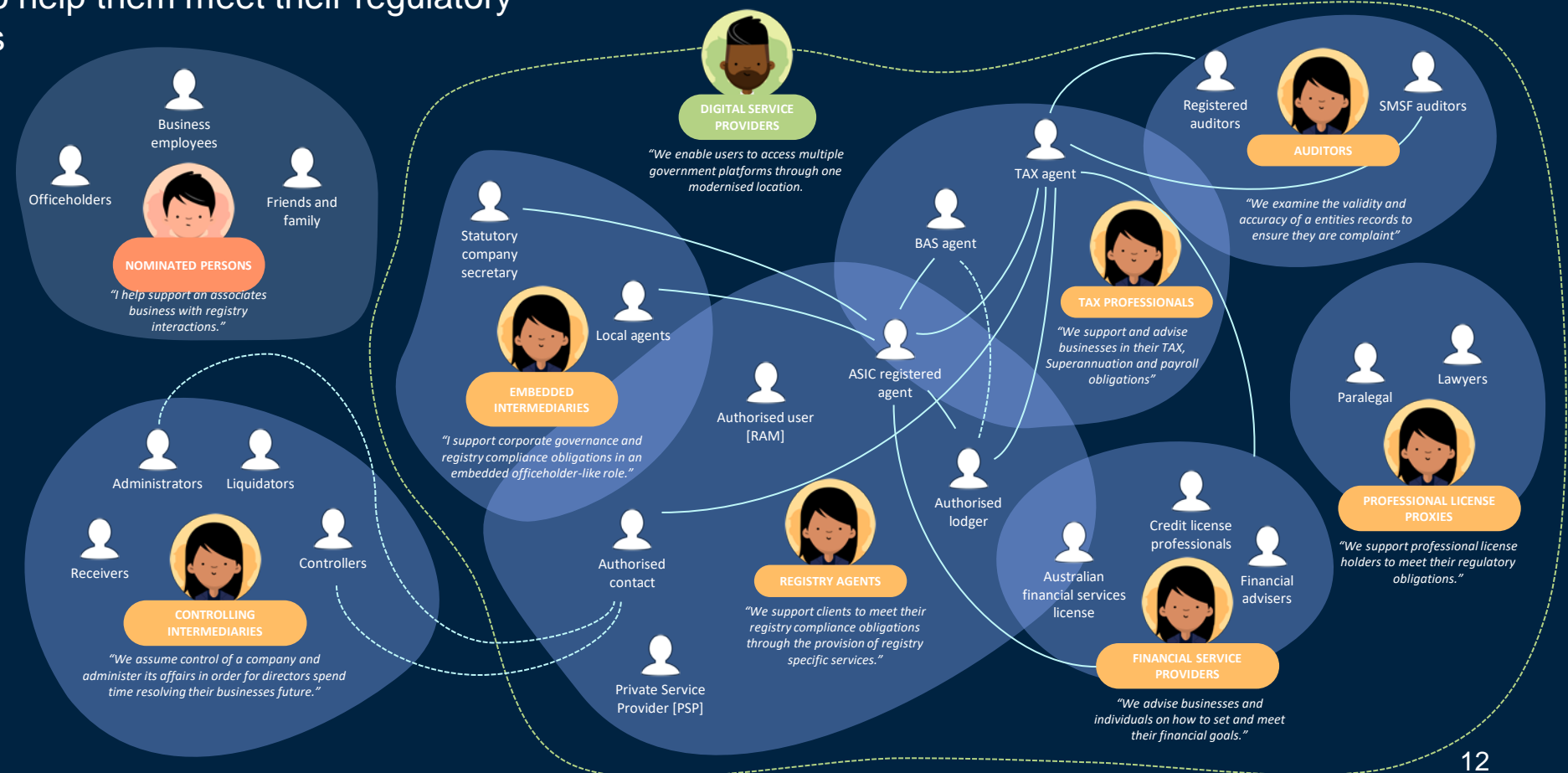| New functions and capabilities	Linkages and integration	Law	Data migration
• Linking a director ID to a company record. • Client Accounting Solution to support client billing, invoicing and payments. • Digital business inbox to support sending digital communication to clients.	• Integration to ASIC name determination. • Checking external role holder details against ASIC registration, e.g. liquidators, auditors, etc. • Checking banned and disqualified registers. • Cross jurisdiction data exchange with NZ registry. • Company ABR data synced back to ABR to support ABN look up and ABR explorer. • Data feed to ASIC Regulatory Data Repository (RDR). • BRS and ABN registration APIs will be decommissioned.	• Data standards will be developed to describe the data to be collected by the Registrar. • Disclosure framework will be developed to define what information the Registrar can release, to whom, and how that data may be used. • MOUs and other data sharing agreements. • Law change will also be required to support key identified transformational opportunities.	The Companies release also requires the migration of historical and current registry data from ASIC and ABR into the newly built ABRS register. This migration means that on day one, companies can interact with their current registration details and other data users can search and access the registry.

The role of intermediaries

Draft map of intermediaries

Intermediaries capture a large number of industries.
They can be defined as professionals who provide services and advice to businesses to help them meet their regulatory and registry obligations

The role of Intermediaries in modernisation

Registered agents, DSP and third party intermediaries are **key registry users who help clients meet their registry obligations.** They provide expert and knowledgeable advice and services and act on behalf of clients, including providing value-added products and services.

Intermediaries are recognised as valuable enablers – this group supports voluntary compliance and is critical to MBR's success in delivering on program outcomes.

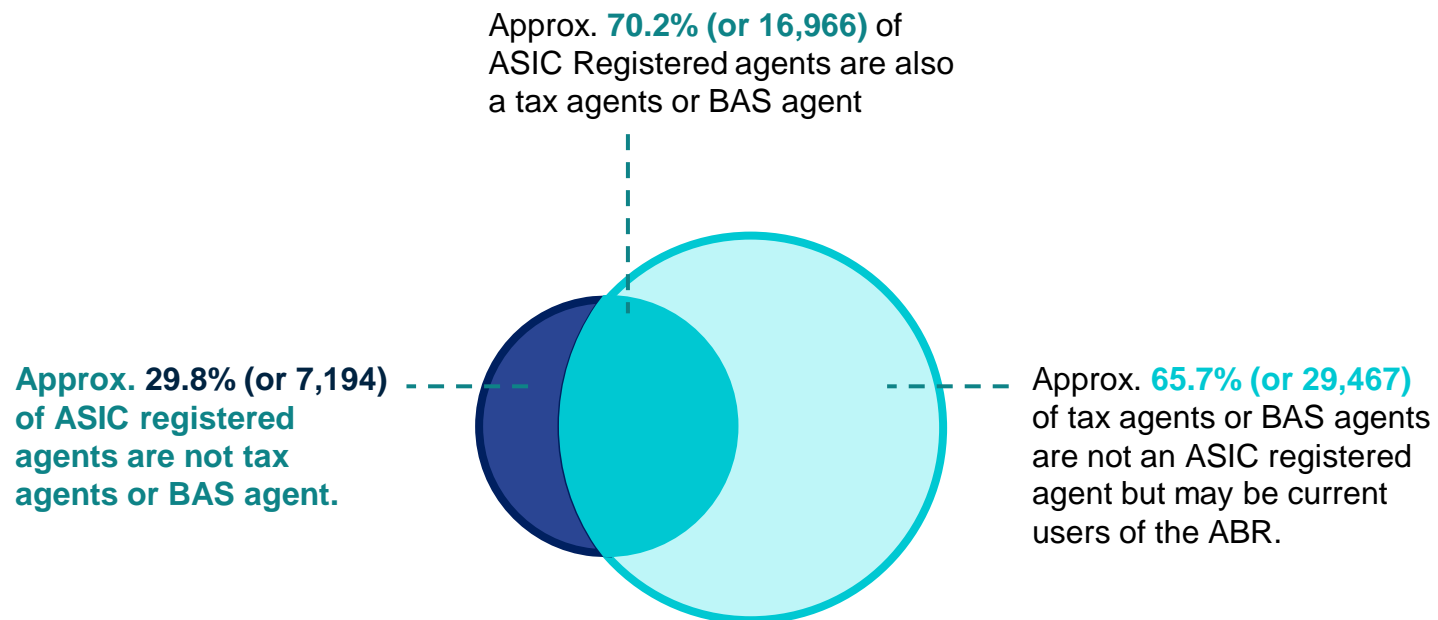**We would like to work with you to shape the ABRS agent model of the future.**

Approx. 75% of Australian companies are represented by registered agents.
This is the equivalent of
2.1 million companies

Data source:
1. RFI #74 – FY19–20 data
2. Registers on a page overview – FY19–20

Who may need to become an ABRS agent

High level analysis of impacted agents

Approx. **70.2% (or 16,966)** of ASIC Registered agents are also a tax agents or BAS agent

Approx. 29.8% (or 7,194) of ASIC registered agents are not tax agents or BAS agent.

Approx. **65.7% (or 29,467)** of tax agents or BAS agents are not an ASIC registered agent but may be current users of the ABR.
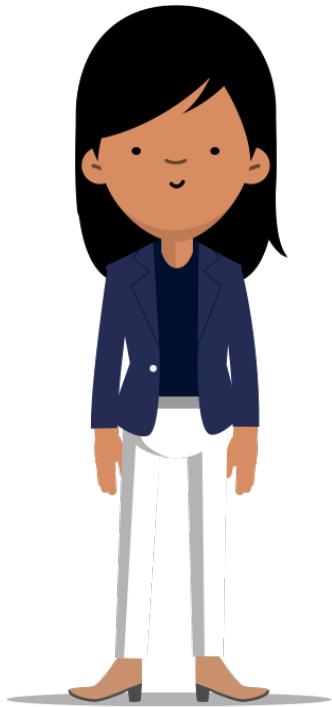
[1] Data from RFI 74, Dec 2020
[2] Tax Profession landscape report – Edition 12, Dec 2020
[3] Extrapolation based on available data matching of 49% of ASIC agents

Across general tax and BAS agent registrations and the agent practice model, approximately 198,000 people are employed as a tax agent within a practice and approximately 37,000 are employed as a book keeper in a BAS agent practice.

ABRS agent key facts

ABRS agents will be a key user group who support voluntary compliance and are critical to the success of the MBR program.

The new ABRS agent model will consolidate existing ASIC and ABR agent functions into one single agent role type.

They will be able to access registry services in one place and require a single credential to log in and act on behalf of their clients.

ABRS agents will be supported to deliver registry services to their clients through tailored agent services in ABRS online and through software.

ABRS agents will not be governed under the Tax Practitioners Board (TPB).

The intent of the ABRS agent model is to cover those who are **providing registry services for a fee** on behalf of clients, regardless of whether they're solicitors, tax agents etc.

ABRS agents **will not** be able to perform tax and superannuation functions via ABRS (unless they are a registered tax or BAS agent).
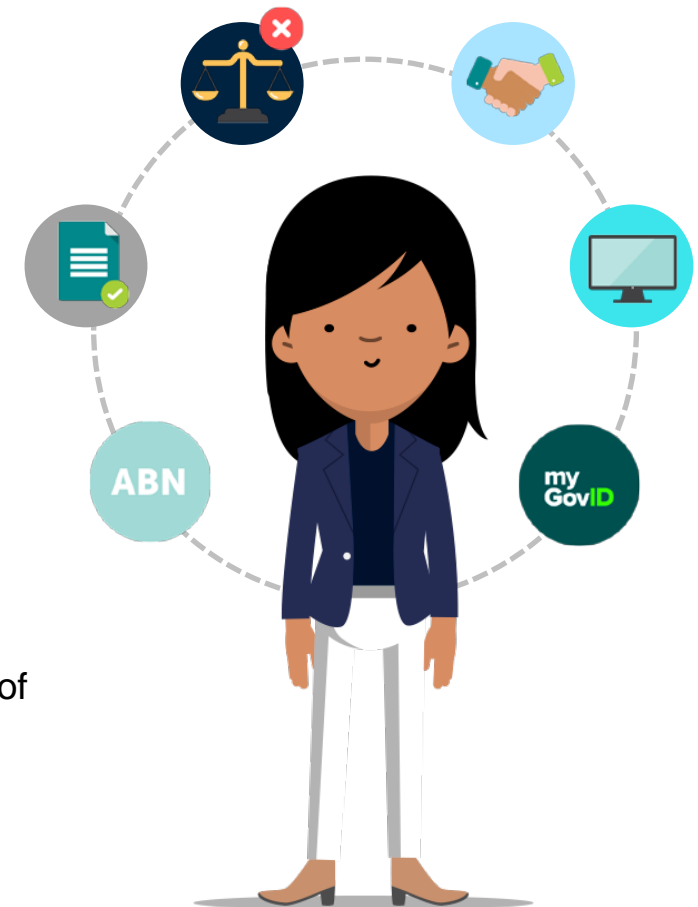
About ABRS agents

ABRS agents will be authorised by registered Australian businesses to register companies and maintain their information, pay fees, receive notifications and may provide other administrative services to business.

To do this, an ABRS agent **must**:

- ✔ be a business with an ABN
- ✔ have been registered to become an ABRS Agent
- ✔ have an ABRS agent identifier
- ✔ have a "responsible person" with a myGovID
- ✔ agree to and comply with Terms and Conditions governed by ABRS
- ✔ have an agreement (off-ABRS) with their client(s) to interact with ABRS on their behalf
- ✔ interact digitally.

An ABRS agent **may**:

- ✔ have staff within their business that they have delegated agent permissions to on behalf of their clients
- ✔ have multiple intermediary role types, such as also being a tax agent, accountant, ABR authorised contact and others.

Focus questions

- Are there any key elements that appear to be missing from the proposed model?

- What would be the key challenges meeting the initial requirements under the proposed model?

Indicative view of services offered

This table includes a non-exhaustive list of the types of **expected** services that each agent type will be able to provide.

Typical access & activities	ABRS agent	BAS agent	Tax agent
Lodging tax objections			✅
Assisting clients with tax concessions			✅
Preparing depreciation schedules			✅
Access to a clients' tax affairs and information		◐	✅
Provide advice on tax and superannuation affairs		◐	✅
Prepare and complete tax lodgements		◐	✅
Access and view tax related correspondence		◐	✅
Payroll services (including super guarantee)		✅	✅
Registration & maintenance of tax roles (GST, PAYG etc.)		✅	✅
Advice on setting up a business	✅	✅	✅
Register a business (ABN/ACN)	✅	✅	✅
Register and maintain business names	✅	✅	✅
Interact and deal with the registrar on behalf of entities (maintain, cease etc.)	✅	✅	✅
View registry related correspondence	✅	✅	✅

Focus questions

- What kind of support could DSP's offer existing agents ahead of registering to become an ABRS agents?

- What else would you like to know about the model?

ASIC forms to ABRS services list

(Please see separate attachment)

Tim Matthews,

ABRS Business Design, Business Registry Design & Delivery

Upcoming API consultation

Eleanor Beer, ABRS Intermediaries Experience, Business Registry Design & Delivery

Tim Matthews, ABRS Business Design, Business Registry Design & Delivery

Kylie Johnston, Director, Digital Partnership Office, EST

API consultation plan

MBR Design Working Group

API forward program presented to working group for consultation. Members to identify priorities and API groupings for consultation round 1.

EOI for focus groups

EOI issued to participate in API focus group. DWG members can express interest, comms will issue to other interested parties

Draft specs available

Draft specs and artefacts available for DSPs to review on API Developer Portal

Focus group sessions

Interested DSPs have opportunity to discuss API design in focus group session and provide feedback

Feedback

DSP feedback on API specs, business intent and user journeys submitted through ticket on Online Services for DSPs/collaboration space

Closing the loop

Feedback and design decisions fed back up to the DWG for visibility.

MBR Design Working Group

API forward program presented to working group for consultation. Members identify priorities and API groupings for consultation round 2.

API consultation schedule   SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Upcoming DWG	API list (indicative view only)
Round 1: API list to be discussed	Apply for Company Name Reservation Check Name Availability Supporting Service Apply for an Australian Public Company Company Registration Services - Apply for an Australian Proprietary Company Apply for an Australian Business Number Apply for a Tax File Number
Round 2: API list to be discussed	Get Australian Proprietary Company Get Australian Public Company Apply for a Business Name Search Public Entity Register View Registrable Australian Body Details Apply for Company Name Reservation Extension Maintain Contact Persons
Round 3: API list to be discussed	Form 362 - Appointment or cessation of a registered agent by a company (ver 1.00) View Foreign Company Details Maintain Ultimate Holding Company ABN Lifecycle Cancellations Maintain Company Addresses Company Details and Maintenance Services - Maintain Shareholder Members Maintain Share Structures

API consultation schedule SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Upcoming DWG	API list (indicative view only)
Round 4: API list to be discussed	Apply for Combined Registration for a New Company Apply for Combined Registration for an Existing Company Change Company Name Maintain Director Details Maintain Secretary Details Maintain General Details Maintain Alternate Director Details Company Lifecycle Maintenance - Company Deregistration Cease an ABRS Agent Appointment
Round 5: API list to be discussed	Request to correct register Data exchange to accept NSX/ASX and ASIC regulatory lodgements 480 Annual Statement Request account transaction listing Free Current Company Extract Free Current Australian Registered Body Extract Free Current Registered Foreign Company Extract Current Company Extract Current and Historical Company Extract Current Australian Registered Body Extract Current and Historical Australian Registered Body Extract Current Registered Foreign Company Extract Current and Historical Registered Foreign Company Extract Copy of a Document given to ASIC Current Personal Name Extract Current and Historical Personal Name Extract Current and Historical Relational Company Extract

Other Business

Natalie Ross – Assistant Commissioner, ABRS

Pipeline & Design

Questions?

Raise a ticket in Online Services for DSPs or email us at DPO@ato.gov.au