



# MBR Design Working Group outcomes

OFFICIAL External

<b>Title:</b>	MBR Design Working Group		
<b>Venue:</b>	WebEx		
<b>Event date:</b>	20 February 2023	<b>Start:</b> 2:00pm	<b>Finish:</b> 3:00pm

<b>Chair:</b>	Mary Arrowsmith	<b>Contact</b>	DPO@ato.gov.au
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<b>Attendees: names/section</b>	Tommy Bragne (Docscenter), Charlie de Demko (Equifax), Richard Atkinson (Illion), Srdjan Rajbah (InfoTrack)  Mitchell Porter (Treasury)  Amit Hossain (ATO), Brian Shepherd (ATO), Caroline White (ATO), Cedric Herbert (ATO), Eleanor Beer (ATO), Joel Guttenberg (ATO), Joel Wellington (ATO), Joshua Close (ATO), Joshua Eckersley (ATO), Kelvin Dexter (ATO), Maddison Gilmore (ATO), Mary Arrowsmith (ATO), Nick Andree (ATO), Scott Payne (ATO), Sonia Lark (ATO), Timothy Deacon (ATO)
<b>Apologies: name/section</b>	Brent Jones (Docscenter), Rod Keys (Information Brokers). Diana Jones (InfoTrack)  Scott Birch (ATO), Samantha Fosberry (ATO), Jodie Stevenson (ATO), Natalie Ross (ATO), Rita Stevens (ATO)
<b>Next meeting</b>	TBC

## Agenda item: 1 – Welcome – Mary Arrowsmith

Mary Arrowsmith welcomed the group to the first meeting for 2023, which was an out-of-session meeting specifically for Information Brokers to discuss and work through a technical solution to retrieving filing details.

The group was provided a program update noting the Government has announced an independent review of the MBR program. Work on the program and its associated deliverables will continue.

It was noted Karen Redhead is taking over as Chair for the group with meeting dates to be confirmed for the year.

## Agenda item: 2 – Retrieving Filing Details API – Kelvin Dexter

The current state of the business document lodgement service is that users can access forms lodged with ASIC by searching for them using different criteria. In the future state, filings will replace forms and satisfy the legislative requirement to publish lodgement details on the register. The filings list will display all filings for the entity in focus, and some filings may include attachments. One lodgement may result in two or more filings, with most lodgments being a one-to-one ratio with the documents lodged. The concept is similar to what is currently on ASIC.

Members noted the uncertainty of the future on fees for accessing these services, and for the consideration for changes to monetisation with their business service offerings.

The business process for retrieving filing details involves using an API interaction to access the filing list and then request the details of a specific filing. In the current state, ASIC document searches can be completed by providing Australian Company Number (ACN) and date parameters to access a document list, which can be refined to specify filing types and Document IDs. In future, the document list will become a filing list.

Members questioned whether the API would return details for all types of filings or if a bespoke API will be created for the top 10 most requested filings. It was noted the solution architecture team would be best placed to answer, and the decision has not yet been made. The information obtained from this group may guide the decision.

During the meeting, the focus questions were used to gather information from Information Brokers about how they wanted to access filing information in the future. Specifically, feedback was sought on the following:

- How many form types do you currently access, or are interested in accessing?
  - The group discussed the types of forms that Information Brokers access, such as those related to changes and financial filings. The goal is to provide a service that covers everything available on ASIC, and the filing list will provide events at a higher level. Customers, such as tax agents and lawyers, use the service to register/monitor, and they appreciate being informed of any changes.
- Which documents/form-types do you currently access?
  - The group discussed the forms they access and identified the top 3 forms used as Form 484, Form 201, and Form 388. Members mentioned their interest in Forms related to insolvency, bankruptcy, and companies going into administration. The Information Brokers also highlighted their position that they need to access all filing types, because that is what their customers expect. The group explored whether there was any additional

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information that could be obtained from the lodgement details. They also discussed the possibility of making published notices available through API.

- Which details (lodgment/effective date/time, who lodged, filing type) do you utilise?
  - Members discussed the lodgement details and filing types that are utilised and the data that is important to customers. The group discussed moving away from document listings to digital filings, and the possibility of using automation to make data more readily available. Feedback from end customers, particularly credit providers, was suggested as an important factor to consider, and the group acknowledged the need to consult with end users before making changes to the delivery of data. Members also discussed the benefits of accessing filing information versus company records and the potential for a changing details notifier.
- Do you need the full content of each filing, or just select data fields?
  - The group talked about different use cases, and the importance of providing the necessary data to customers who require evidence of a particular event. The discussion also explored the fact that some customers may require extra documents beyond the company extract, depending on the type of filing.
- What are some use cases for accessing the filing details?
  - Members were asked to suggest use cases for accessing filing details. A member mentioned that the intention is to draw all PPSR/ASIC/bankruptcy filings and having access to all the data would be helpful in backfilling the database. Another member mentioned that when they perform a company registration (201) lodgement, they retain an original packet and a copy of what they send, which includes a CMY file (RA72) that is part of the company's registration.
- How are filing details processed by Information Brokers?
  - A member mentioned that if they are providing customer service via throughput, they would receive a copy of the message and pass it on as requested. Another member mentioned the use of Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and the importance of considering future solutions while also maintaining the document image to avoid liability issues with information broker-branded documents. The preference was expressed for ensuring continued access to PDF copies of lodgements, but would like the ability to receive as raw data too.

### **Agenda item: 3 – Other business and close – Mary Arrowsmith**

It was noted the insights and information gathered from these sessions help inform the design space and will be used to inform future decisions.

The members were invited to provide any further feedback from the session to the DPO if there were concerns around sensitivities.