



## Key Outcomes

UNCLASSIFIED External

<b>Title:</b>	PLS working group – key outcomes		
<b>Issue date:</b>	6 February 2020		
<b>Venue:</b>	WEBEX		
<b>Event date:</b>	4 February 2020	<b>Start:</b> 1:00pm	<b>Finish:</b> 2:00pm

<b>Chair:</b>	Danielle Miller	<b>Facilitator:</b>	Danielle Miller
<b>Contact</b>	Sonya Summers	<b>Contact phone:</b>	02 472 57383

<b>Attendees: names/section</b>	<p>ATO – Paul Walters, Paul Mosca, Alex Barnes, Danny Figueiredo, David Andreoli, Nadeem Shariff, Ross Barns, Karen Greaves, David Baker, Tania Andrews-Zanozin, Beth Anderson, Warren Sturgiss, Anupama Duggirala, Danielle Miller, Julie Sen, Terry Seiver, Brendan Kee, Carl Bennett.</p> <p>Industry – Jack Wee (Catsoft), Lex Edmonds (MicroTax), Sandeep Gopalan (GovReports), Mike Behling, Scott Reid, Michael Tong, Danny Koutoulos (MYOB), Kevin Johnson (Reckon), Saiful Larry, Darin Carter (Sage), Chardutta More (Sparken), Shane Paxton, Paul Siriwardana (Thomson Reuters), Robert Xie, Danna Zhang (Wolters Kluwer), Andrew Sprankling, Kelvin Newton (Xero).</p>
<b>Apologies: name/section</b>	<p>Sangitha Sivayogaraj, Mike Denniss, Sha Sha (Class Super), Simon Smart (eTax), Trent Hayes (MYOB), Andrew Noble (Noble Accounting), Nathan Kerr (One-Click), Michael Wright (Sage), Karl Farrand (Taxlab), Dillon Tsotsis, Grant Whytcross, Lisa Kim, (Wolters Kluwer), Anthony Migliardi (Xero)</p>

<b>Next meeting</b>	18 February 2020
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## Agenda item: 1 – Introduction

Danielle introduced the [ATO Online simulator](#) to the group.

As you are aware the ATO has published a product on ato.gov.au that simulates the operations of the ATO Online product. The product has primarily been designed to support our educational programs enabling key community groups such as teachers to incorporate the use of practical applications in the context of their programs. The service can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/ATO-online-services-simulator/>

This product may also assist DSP's better understand the manner in which the ATO's service operates in various scenarios:

1. [Lodge myTax with no pre-fill data, transfer super](#)
2. [Lodge myTax – under 18 years old](#)
3. [Lodge myTax, PAYGI, transfer balance cap – over 60 years old](#)
4. [Complex myTax, BAS, GST property, STP, manage super](#) (This scenario is recommended as the best to gain an overall view of the product)
5. [Lodge myTax – working holiday maker](#)
6. [Non-resident with a HELP debt](#)
7. [View or amend myTax lodged returns, HELP debt, transfer super](#)
8. [View or amend tax agent lodged returns, transfer super](#)

Please note that these scenarios are designed to mimic different taxpayer affairs but do not cover all possible 'real life' arrangements. The service also does not interface with our corporate systems such as ICP.

Users of the service need to appreciate that the product is only updated once per quarter - generally at the end of that quarter's warranty period. The next update will be 25 January to incorporate 2019Q4 + ASFP changes + e-fixes deployed up to that date. We haven't settled on a date for 2020Q1 yet, but 2020Q2 will be updated twice – once on 1 July and again at the end of the warranty period.

### WRE schedule

From Tax Time 2020, the WRE Schedule (also known as Schedule W) associated with the Individual tax return will be disabled.

With the successful deployment of the Deduction schedule at Tax Time 2019, the WRE schedule (also known as Schedule W) is no longer required.

The Deduction schedule primarily provides the required data previously requested on the WRE schedule. Any additional information required as part of an audit/review process will be collected as part of the audit interaction.

Therefore, for 2020 returns and later, the WRE schedule will no longer be accepted as part of lodgment, nor will ATO staff request the provision of this schedule as part of an audit or review process.

Dani reminded the group that the [draft IITR BIG](#) was made available to the group for comment in December. Any feedback can be sent through to the DPO via Online Services for DSPs or to [DPO@ato.gov.au](mailto:DPO@ato.gov.au).

### Agenda item: 2 – Action item update

Updates on outstanding items were provided. (see [action items](#))

### Agenda item: 3 – Digital Identity update

Paul Walters provided the group an update on progress occurring in the digital identity space.

- 86 DSPs have transitioned to the machine credential
- 40% of DSPs have claimed their company in RAM

Fixes have been deployed for two recent issues being experienced related to ‘timeout’ and ‘replay attack’ errors and these appear to now be resolved.

There was a change released in January to allow credential permissions to be copied from different credential types rather than only from the same credential type as previously.

FAQs and ‘Known Issues’ are now published in the [Knowledge Hub](#) in OS4Ds.

A draft service definition for Security Token Services (STS) has been circulated – please let the DPO know if you have not received it. Although it is only a draft version at this stage, we are not expecting significant changes, only more detail.

### Agenda item: 4 – PLS working group Terms of Reference

Danielle advised the group that the ‘Terms of Reference’ for the group were being updated to ensure they clearly cover the purpose and intent of the group.

The draft document has been published in the Collaboration Hub for review and feedback. (see [PLS items for review](#))

### Agenda item: 5 – Tax time 2020

Warren Sturgiss advised there have been updates to some IT products including ITRPFL, IITR and SMSFAR. Details of what will be moving into EVTE in March are still to be confirmed as some changes are dependent on associated legislation being passed.

## Agenda item: 6 – Platform update

Anu advised that the platform has been stable and that the monthly maintenance has been scheduled. No outages are expected, just a delay in the BBRP response times.

## Agenda item: 7 – Agent online environment update

Carl Bennett advised there have been no significant issues or problems with the environment aside from a short period of degradation this morning.

David Baker advised that he had held discussions with the Tax Practitioner Board (TPB) to discuss advice they had been providing to agents who wanted to create or retain their branch structures to consolidate these structures and approach their software provider for an alternative solution. He confirmed with the TPB that as they were not aware of any software solution, referral to their software provider was not a viable alternative and so they have agreed to remove this advice with immediate effect. David advised that if in the future, DSPs are approached by their clients for a solution to their RAN branching needs as a result of a referral from the TPB, to reach out to David directly and he will take it up with the TPB as there are no software alternatives to branching for RANs.

## Agenda item: 8 De-whitelisting policy

Terry Seiver spoke to the group about the [De-whitelisting policy](#).

The ATO is committed to ensuring software products remain whitelisted, however there may be occasions the ATO will need to take reasonable steps to protect our SBR channel and continuity for other software providers.

Late last year the DPO developed a document to describe the high level process of dewhitelisting a software product.

Dewhitelisting may occur as a result of a security incident or non-compliance with any mandatory obligations such as the Operational Framework. Major security incidents where a DSPs system and/or data security has been compromised will result in an immediate dewhitelist. Delayed de-whitelisting will occur for any other scenario where immediate de-whitelisting is not required. The de-whitelisting policy document focuses on the delayed de-whitelisting process.

Once an issue has been identified the affected DSP will be notified and agreed actions and timeframes will be established for resolution of the issue. Suitable evidence may be required to demonstrate the issue has been adequately addressed in order for the product to remain whitelisted. If the issue is not addressed in a reasonable timeframe, the ATO will then notify the DSP with a warning of intent to de-whitelist. For STP providers, clients will also be notified so that they can transition to another provider to meet their STP obligations. The DSP will then be formally notified of the de-whitelisting date, after which the product will be dewhitelisted.

Dewhitelisted software products can apply to be re-whitelisted but may be required to perform PVT and/or complete the latest version of the Security Questionnaire.

The *draft* document can be found on the [Software Developers website](#) and in the [Collaboration Hub](#) for review.

### Agenda item: 9 – DSP feedback/issues

Sage asked when the draft version of NAT1371 will be available

Action item: DPO to follow up when the draft form for NAT 1371 will be published.

Reckon asked when the final version of the 2020 FBT return will be available as currently there is still only a draft form.

Action item: DPO to follow up when the final version of the 2020 FBT form (NAT 1067) will be available.

**Update:** The final version is now available in Controlled information both on the [Software Developers](#) website and in [Online Services for DSPs](#).

MYOB asked whether there was a change advice expected for changes to Q32 (related to NCMI) on the 2020 partnership ITR. DPO advised there was a change advice published on 07/01/2020 in relation to the changes to the partnership ITR.

GovReports queried whether there was any update in relation to digital identity for the Offices of State Revenue. Paul Walters advised that the DPO has been working with them undertaking impact assessments, some have responded, some may not be continuing using SBR. Updates from those that will be continuing are expected in a couple of weeks.

Reckon sought clarification around the requirement to PVT forms for TT2020 where there have been no significant changes (e.g. FBT return). Danny Figueiredo explained that similar to previous tax time years, there are no foreseen requirements for the need to re-PVT any NITR forms. However, there is the need for all DSPs developing for 2020 to request for EVTE whitelisting and complete testing prior to tax time 2020. For IITR 2020, more information will be provided in due course. It will be an ongoing requirement so the ATO can monitor who is testing and who is not. He went on to advise it is a relatively simple process and requests are accommodated as quickly as possible. David Baker added that there was community expectation to ensure data security for the end-to-end process across the board.

### On-demand ASLRPT - discussion

The ASLRPT was created as a result of the transition from ELS to PLS. The report provides form type, due date and frequency. The information is provided in a repeating group for any account the agent is authorised for.

The issue that has been raised in relation to the 'God rule' is as follows:

- If an agent is listed at the client or IT account level and there is NO agent listed at the CAC level, the report will return all lodgements, including activity statements.

Some agents do not want obligations they have no responsibility for appearing on their reports, however some agents do want to be able to keep track of activity statement obligations.

Some agents also have responsibility for lodging activity statements but do not physically link to the activity statements role because of how the God Rule works – they don't need to.

DSPs were interested in whether there was any way to allow filtering or include a flag to allow tailoring of lists.

Paul Walters and Carl Bennett advised that they will investigate if an attribute still exists and may be maintained as an outbound parameter.

Next steps: The DPO will follow up to see what options are available and update the group.