



ABS House  
45 Benjamin Way  
Belconnen ACT 2617

Locked Bag 10  
Belconnen ACT 2616  
Telephone: (02) 6252 6705



## Australian Statistician

Kat Lane  
Vice-Chair, Australian Privacy Foundation  
Dr David Lindsay  
Vice-Chair, Australian Privacy Foundation  
David Vaile  
Vice-Chair, Australian Privacy Foundation

Dear Ms Lane, Dr Lindsay and Mr Vaile,

I would like to thank you for your letter and interest in the Census of Population and Housing 2016 and Privacy Impact Assessment conducted by the ABS in 2015.

The ABS is committed to maintaining the trust and protecting the privacy of all Australian's who contribute to the Census, and to transparency and engagement with changes to how we undertake the Census. We believe this was reflected in the decision to undertake an assessment of the privacy risks of retaining names and addresses from the 2016 Census.

The public were provided with an opportunity to make submissions as part of the Privacy Impact Assessment. The ABS also conducted a number of focus groups and considered submissions in the review of Census nature and content. This process also included consultation with the Australian Privacy Commissioner, as well as State and Territory Privacy Commissioners.

The ABS decision is consistent with the prescribed functions of the ABS, set out in legislation, and complies with other necessary legislative and privacy requirements. It is also consistent with your support of the Bureau's mission to use Census data for the purpose of improving the well-being of the Australian community.

I have asked Ms Gemma Van Halderen, a senior member of my Executive team, to meet with you to further discuss the issues raised in your letter. Ms Van Halderen will be in touch shortly to organise a meeting

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David W. Kalisch".

Mr David W. Kalisch

19 February 2016