

Submission on discussion document: *Publication of Directors' Residential Addresses on the Companies Register*

Your name and organisation

Name	Jan Wijninckx (pronounced Yan Vaynings)
Organisation	SmartMatix Ltd

Please select if your submission contains confidential information:

I would like my submission (or specified parts of my submission) to be kept confidential, and attach my reasons for this for consideration by MBIE.

Responses to discussion document questions

1	<p>Do you have any comments of our assessment of the options for approaching directors' residential addresses on the Companies Register?</p> <p>I think there should be more rigour in verifying the director, for example using a passport ID so that a person in the companies' office can assess which Mr Jones is which Mr Jones. However, that information should never be published.</p> <p>I'm in full favour of a DIN, and it should not have to cost much, as it is just an ID in a database.</p>
2	<p>What is your preferred option?</p> <p>Option 2 by far</p>
3	<p>Are there interested parties who may have a legitimate reason to need to access directors' residential addresses? If so, who?</p> <p>No. Only law enforcers should have that right. To have a DIN and the verify authentication through a passport should cut down on people who wish to cheat the register. To have a DIN which connects the same authenticated person to various companies is a good idea. Thus anyone looking up Mr Jones with the DIN wil find any other companies with Mr Jones and that DIN.</p>
4	<p>Is there a public interest in directors' residential addresses being provided to third parties such as journalists?</p> <p>No Journalists can go to the address of the company.</p>
5	<p>Under what circumstances should directors' residential addresses be released to an interested party?</p>

	In cases of alleged criminal activity, being in default etc, as requested by a registered lawyer.
6	Do you agree that government departments and agencies should have automatic access to directors' residential addresses?
	No – not at all – what for? They can see the directors name and they should be able to serve to the company address, not to a personal address. They can see through the DIN how directors are connected to businesses.
7	Should this access be limited to the enforcement of law or are there other situations where it may be appropriate for government departments and agencies to have access to directors' residential addresses?
	Government departments are no different to any other parties such as a business. If there is an issue with the business, take a lawyer and then the lawyer can access the address in the ultimate case that the directors do not respond though the company address. I believe companies should provide a generic company email address where they can be reached. That address should be public. It does not need to be their name @ domain, it could be say TheDirectors@SmartMatix.com and the directors provide the email of their choice.
8	Are there other factors which you think should be included in considering approaches to directors' residential addresses in historic documents?
	This is the biggest bug-bear for me. You should scrub the old data especially what is accessible through web-sites. I have a huge issue with publishing these documents as they contain signatures. This makes identity fraud super easy. It takes 3 years of one's life to sort out an identity fraud, such as someone assuming one's identity. And having the signatures makes it super easy to assume one's identity. In their stupidity, the companies office for a while even published the company director's details including signatures on Facebook. Please scrub the database of all old documents, by just removing them. They serve no purpose for the public. For the public all they need to know is Mr Jones is a Director of company XYZ. Any other information in my opinion serves no purpose, and just leads to opening up the directors to unacceptable levels of privacy and identity theft risks.
9	Do you agree with our preferred approach to historic documents on the companies register?
	No – you should just remove those documents from the public view. Very quick and easy option and you still have the information in case law enforcement needs it.
10	Have you encountered situations where you consider that members of the public have abused this provision? If so, please provide details.
	No
11	Do you agree that shareholders' residential addresses should be treated the same way as directors' residential addresses (ie replaced with an address for service)?
	Yes
12	Are there circumstances where third parties might have a legitimate interest in the residential address of a shareholder?

No, they don't.

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Do you think any changes need to be made to the residential address requirements for officers of other types of entities?

They should follow the same rules – NZ doesn't want to hear it, but really you need a social security number which uniquely identifies all residents. That way you can always talk about the correct person and you won't need any other private details.

Other comments

Please remove all documents with signatures from the register for viewing by the public. It took me ten minutes to find John Key's signature at the time he was prime minister. His signature has nothing to do with anyone of the public, anyone could have used it to sign all sorts of documents, open bank accounts, create debt in his name using his details. Please.