



## Australian Government

### The Treasury

## INFORMATION SHARING – PROTECTING VULNERABLE VISA HOLDERS

### SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION PROCESS

Taskforce Cadena was established for the purposes of reducing visa fraud, illegal work and the exploitation of foreign workers in Australia. A major purpose of Taskforce Cadena is to protect the public finances of Australia, including by deterring visa fraud, fraudulent phoenix activity, and unlawful employer and labour hire practices.

A draft version of the *Taxation Administration Amendment (Disclosure of Information) Regulation 2016* was released for public consultation on 4 January 2016. This Regulation proposed to amend the *Taxation Administration Regulations 1976* to add Taskforce Cadena to the list of prescribed taskforces. This would allow taxation officers to disclose protected information to taskforce officers in Taskforce Cadena.

#### Consultation process

Consultation on the draft Regulation was conducted between 4 and 22 January 2016. Three submissions were received.

Submissions can be viewed on the [Treasury website](#).

#### Summary of key issues

The submissions were generally supportive of the changes proposed by the Regulation. Some concerns were raised about the privacy of vulnerable visa holders; however the Government considers that the privacy of these visa holders will be protected by existing safeguards in the *Privacy Act 1988* and the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*.

No changes were made to the Regulation as a result of consultation.

#### Feedback

Feedback on the consultation process for this measure can be forwarded to [consultation@treasury.gov.au](mailto:consultation@treasury.gov.au). Alternatively, you can contact Ashlea King on (02) 6263 2993.

Thank you to all participants in the consultation process.