

## Department of Communication and the Arts

### Feedback: Transparency and Accountability Framework

Recommendations	Threshold (Dept considers document needs to be updated to address concerns)	Guidance required (Dept welcomes views on identified issues)	General (Observations and general queries)
<p><b>Rec 9</b> – that auDA:</p> <p><b>a)</b> formalise its transparency and accountability framework, consistent with recommendations in the Westlake review</p> <p><b>b)</b> report annually on its performance against the framework in its Annual Report and at its Annual General Meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The framework would benefit from an overarching strategic piece. The framework should acknowledge why transparency and accountability is important to auDA and its stakeholders (in a similar way to the stakeholder engagement framework).</li> <li>• The framework would benefit from a definition of transparency and accountability. Page 21 of the Westlake review provides good descriptions.</li> <li>• There are a number of recommendations from the Westlake review that are not reflected in the new framework. Can auDA indicate why these have not been included? (see page 31 of the 2011 Westlake Review)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 5 – as well as being open to stakeholder feedback, it would be useful for auDA to publically commit to making adjustments where relevant and necessary as a result of that feedback—could be reflected in the stakeholder engagement plan.</li> <li>• Will auDA publish its whistleblower policy for greater transparency?</li> <li>• Section 3.2 – suggest the ‘multiple varied approaches’ could be spelled out, or at least reference auDA’s stakeholder engagement plan.</li> <li>• Section 4.1 – in cases where auDA has sought public comments, auDA should consider, committing to publish stakeholder submissions for greater transparency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appreciate that the document acknowledges the role of the Department and ICANN, and auDA’s public reporting obligations under the Government’s Terms of Endorsement.</li> </ul>