# dspanz. digital service providers australia new zealand

# **Annual Report**

2023-24

Published 6 November 2024



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DSPANZ acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We also acknowledge Māori as tangata whenua and Treaty of Waitangi partners in Aotearoa New Zealand.

# Introduction

In 2023-24, we marked a significant milestone - 10 years of DSPANZ. Over the past decade, DSPANZ has stayed true to our mission. We support the world-class business software sector in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand and connect government with industry to solve challenges together.

Over the past year, our efforts have remained focused on ensuring Digital Service Providers (DSPs) have a voice in shaping policy across tax, accounting, payroll, superannuation, business registry and invoicing obligations that will ultimately be delivered as software experiences. DSPANZ continues to advocate for early and sustained engagement with government agencies in Australia and New Zealand to support conversations on technical feasibility and implementation.

DSPANZ has also been contributing to broader discussions on tax ecosystem digitalisation. In the past year, we have met with the UK Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, James Murray MP, the incoming Inspector-General of Taxation and Taxation Ombudsman, Ruth Owen and the Board of Taxation. To support these conversations, we have published resources on <u>understanding DSP software development</u> and <u>the future of wholesale and retail services in the tax ecosystem</u>.

We have led efforts to establish best practices for <u>data minimisation and retention</u> and collecting and storing Tax File Numbers (TFNs) in software for Australian DSPs. Next year, we will work with Inland Revenue to develop data minimisation and retention guidance for DSPs in New Zealand.

Through our partnership with Australian Payments Plus (AP+), DSPANZ is supporting DSPs with changes to the Australian payments landscape, with the retirement of the Bulk Electronic Clearing Service (BECS) signalled for 2030. Our working group co-chaired with AP+ kicked off earlier this year and more recently held a face to face workshop in Sydney.

We have also seen changes to DSPANZ as an organisation. Notably, we farewelled our Operations Manager, Donna Burridge, who retired in August after being with DSPANZ for 6 years.

Looking ahead, DSPANZ will continue to champion the interests of our members in the face of significant changes across Australia and New Zealand. We expect to be navigating Privacy Act reforms, changes to support the introduction of Payday Super, continued consultation on the Holidays Act and an election in Australia.

This year's Annual Report captures a year of meaningful engagement with our members and peers in government, key achievements and our priorities heading into 2025.

# President's Report

#### Kia ora! Tēnā koutou katoa.

Like previous years, 2023-24 brought significant changes for our members, their customers, and key government partners on both sides of the Tasman. The scale and pace of regulatory change continued to grow alongside community expectations of Digital Service Providers' work and their role in delivering a connected, digital economy.

As the representative industry association for business software developers in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, DSPANZ continues to advocate for the continued success and sustainability of the business software industry and for our government partners to continue to focus on feasibility and delivery as the lynchpin for co-design of new policy measures and mechanisms.

This year's Annual Report captures a critical view of our association's activities and the tireless efforts of our staff, directors, and members in our ongoing conversations and collaboration with government and industry on both sides of the Tasman. Our work continues to have a positive impact on the broader ecosystem.

The past twelve months have been dynamic and eventful for DSPANZ and our members. We have made significant strides in various areas, ensuring our industry remains at the forefront of digital transformation in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

#### **Key Activities and Events:**

- Payday Super Legislation: DSPANZ actively participated in closed-door feasibility conversations with Treasury regarding Payday Super legislation. We also engaged in public consultations and co-design sessions with the ATO to assess the impacts of Payday Super on SuperStream, Single Touch Payroll, and the typical workflows of employers and trusted advisors.
- Australian Government Digital Identity System (AGDIS): We repeatedly met with the
  Department of Finance to discuss the impacts of the now enacted AGDIS, focusing
  on the machine-to-machine credential and the identity proofing requirements for
  DSPs and our customers.
- Payroll Harmonisation: Our conversations with State and Federal Governments continued, addressing the harmonisation of Long Service Leave provisions, occupation codes, and various payroll tax and privacy provisions.
- Collaboration with Taxation Authorities: We established a positive working relationship with the Inspector General of Taxation and the Board of Taxation, contributing to their forward work plans.
- Partnership with Australian Payments Plus: Our payments working group explored the potential opportunities for DSPs created by new and emerging payment technologies in collaboration with Australian Payments Plus.

- **Best Practice Papers:** We developed two best practice papers: one on Data Retention and Minimisation and the other on incorporating Tax File Numbers into business software.
- NZ Digital Advisory Group: Our NZ Digital Advisory Group has been particularly productive, developing industry versions of draft Terms of Use for Inland Revenue APIs and Digital Services. We continue to evolve and develop the security conversation for the NZ tax ecosystem.
- Membership Restructure: We made the difficult decision to restructure our membership fees for the first time in a decade. These changes recognise the increased demand for DSPANZ to engage with government agencies, professional associations, and industry stakeholders and ensure we can continue our role well into the future.

#### **Working Relationship with the Australian Taxation Office**

DSPANZ continues to co-chair both the DSP Strategic Working Group (SWG) and the Digital Architecture Reference Group (DARG) with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). I would like to acknowledge the considerable efforts of the Digital Partnership Office (DPO) Secretariat and the work of all participating members in these vital and critical conversations.

This year, several frank and robust conversations have occurred as the industry and the ATO come to terms with the financial and operational constraints placed upon the Tax Office and DSPs. The partnership between DSPANZ and the ATO has grown stronger this year, and we continue to focus on positive, collaborative, and feasible solutions that support a modern, connected digital economy.

Last month, for the first time in fifteen years, ATO Commissioner Rob Heferen attended the DSP Strategic Working Group this year. It is pleasing to see the ATO and the broader Government ecosystem increasingly recognise the role and importance of DSPs.

The recent restructuring of ATO Enterprise Solutions and Technology, which brings together Digital Integration, Invoicing & Partnerships under a single Assistant Commissioner, will greatly improve the working relationship and alignment between ATO and DSPs going forward.

I'd like to thank our co-chairs of the SWG in 2024 - Elly Stinchcombe, Natalie Ross, and Michael Rowell - for their support and collaboration throughout the year.

#### He Tāngata, He Tāngata, He Tāngata

This Māori proverb - It's the people. It's the people. It's the people - is a fitting acknowledgement of the extraordinary staff, elected directors and volunteers who power DSPANZ and enable our organisation to have such an impact.

I would also like to acknowledge our key government partners: the Australian Taxation Office, NZ Inland Revenue, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Treasury,

Finance, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and the Fair Work Commission.

I would like to thank our former Operations Manager, Donna Burridge, for managing the organisation's day-to-day affairs and creating a safe, productive, and positive working environment for our Adelaide-based staff. Donna joined DSPANZ for a short three-month stint six years ago and thankfully decided to remain with us for the remainder of her career. We express our deepest gratitude to Donna, thank her for her efforts in developing our association and our people, and wish her a long and happy retirement.

I would like to thank Eden Treloar for her hard work connecting with our members and wrangling our subcommittees, working groups, and newsletters. Eden has stepped up this year following Donna's retirement and plays an increasingly important role in the continued success of DSPANZ and our members.

I would like to celebrate Maggie Leese's efforts as Public Relations and Policy Manager, who brings to life the considered thoughtful work of our members. Maggie's tireless efforts this year have cemented our place as the representative body for business software developers in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. Her contribution this year has been immense, and it will continue to impact our industry for years to come.

I would also like to thank our members for their continued patronage and support. Our members are the lifeblood of our organisation - and we are privileged to represent and advocate on your behalf.

#### **Looking Ahead**

As we move forward, we remain committed to supporting our members and stakeholders in navigating the ever-changing digital landscape. We will continue to advocate for practical, feasible, and deliverable outcomes that benefit the broader industry.

Thank you to our members, partners, and stakeholders for your continued support and collaboration. Together, we will continue to drive innovation and excellence in the business software sector.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Matthew Prouse** 

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**DSPANZ President** 

Matthew JL Crouse

# **About DSPANZ**

Digital Service Providers Australia New Zealand (DSPANZ) is the peak body representing the world-class business software sector in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Over the years, the business software industry has helped streamline and transform payroll, superannuation, tax, accounting and finance operations by delivering new, secure digital solutions. This work is helping to fuel the digital economy while improving user experiences and government policy outcomes.

DSPANZ has a proven track record of helping government agencies consult and work with the business software industry on significant policies and projects that require technology-led solutions.

#### Our Mission

DSPANZ supports members in informing government policies and developing solutions that optimise business and economic outcomes in New Zealand and Australia.

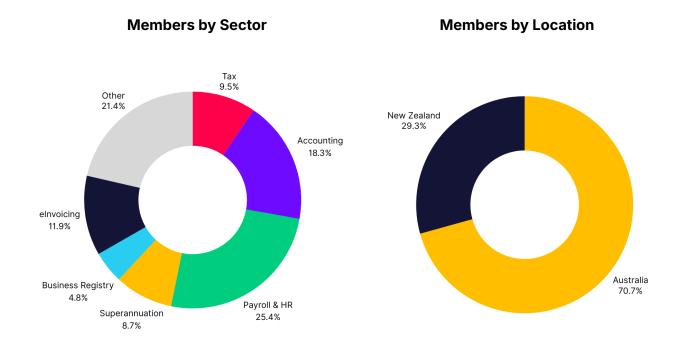
We achieve our mission by:

- Sharing knowledge, expertise and industry updates
- Building strong networks in Australia and New Zealand
- Connecting government and industry to solve challenges together
- Engaging with government on behalf of members to inform policy outcomes
- Enabling consultation for members on business to government and business to business initiatives.



# **Our Members**

<u>Our members</u> range from large, well-established companies to new and nimble innovators. Software developed by DSPANZ members delivers more than 90% of payroll and superannuation messages; helps manage 90% of all employers and employees; submits 90% of income tax returns, activity statements and GST returns; sends and receives 90% of elnvoices; and supports more than 90% of small businesses and their trusted advisors.



#### **Members by Customer Focus**

# Large Business 43.9% Small Business 56.1% DSP 3 16.1% DSP 3 16.1%

**Members by Tier** 

DSP 2 29%

# 2024 Board of Directors



Matthew Prouse **President & Director** 



Simone Dixon
Vice President &
Director



Mike Behling **Secretary & Director** 



Erin Adams **Treasurer & Director** 



Allen Knight **Director** 



Belinda Stewart **Director** 



Chris Denney **Director** 



Collette Betts **Director** 



Matt Lewis **Director** 



Paul Orford **Director** 

# **Financial Report**

Please find copies of our profit and loss statement and balance sheet for 2023-24 below.

# **Profit and Loss**

Australian Business Software Industry Association Limited For the year ended 30 June 2024

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Trading Income		
Business Memberships	4,200	2,870
Developer Memberships	188,692	184,644
Individual Membership	952	905
Sponsorships Received	50,000	-
Webinar - Tickets	-	209
Total Trading Income	243,843	188,627
Cost of Sales		
Conference - Operating Costs	-	16
Total Cost of Sales	-	16
Gross Profit	243,843	188,611
Other Income		
Donations - In Kind	602	6,000
GATE Service Fee		14,000
Interest Income	1,856	
Other Income	108	46
Total Other Income	2,566	20,046

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Operating Expenses		
Directors Travel	9,972	6,367
Marketing and Advocacy	3,681	6,080
Operations	13,913	14,267
Other Expenses	549	780
Staff Costs	200,264	197,762
Total Operating Expenses	228,379	225,256
Net Profit	18,030	(16,599)

# **Balance Sheet**

Australian Business Software Industry Association Limited As at 30 June 2024

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Assets		
Bank		
Divipay Expenses Account	-	1,921
Macquarie CMA	142,049	-
Stripe Merchant Account	-	609
Westpac Community Account	2,930	145,252
Total Bank	144,979	147,782
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	32,193	10,098
Total Current Assets	32,193	10,098
Total Assets	177,173	157,880
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	<del>-</del>	582
GST	3,192	1,010
PAYGW Liability	9,581	9,387
Rounding	3	3
Stripe Merchant Account	62	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	12,839	10,982

The Responsible People declare that in the Responsible People's opinion, at the time of the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 6 November 2024:

139,988

158,018

- A. there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian Business Software Industry Association Limited is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- B. the organisation is able to meet its Fair Work and Australian Taxation Office obligations as an employer and GST registered entity.

Signed

Signed by:

Erin Adams FCPA

**Treasurer & Director** 

Crin Udams – 3AE1CEDA43383EFD

**Retained Earnings** 

**Total Equity** 

156,587

139,988

# Member Engagement

DSPANZ facilitates committees and working groups to bring our members together and support areas of interest for DSPs. We operate a Security Committee, a Payments Working Group and monthly Australian Payroll meetings.

Through supporting industry events such as Women in Tech and Generative AI summits over the past year, we have provided members with the opportunity to be involved in the broader tech and software community.

# **Security Committee**

The <u>Security Committee</u> met six times over 2023-24 and is co-chaired by Director Belinda Stewart and member Charles Gillman. One of the primary goals of this committee has been to support members with education and practical resources to help them meet their obligations and understand changes in the security landscape.

Over the past year, the committee has hosted a series of educational webinars, including:

- <u>ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Practical Overview hosted by BSI</u>, which gave members insight into the updated security standard.
- <u>Anatomy of a Cyber Attack presented by Forensic IT</u>, which focused on incident response and real-world lessons learned from cyber attacks.
- <u>Cyber Security Insurance: Friend or Foe? Presented by Austbrokers Countrywide,</u> which explored the importance and role of cyber insurance in protecting DSPs.

The committee has also been developing an incident reporting guide, which includes comprehensive cheat sheets and educational materials on mandatory reporting requirements for DSPs. While still in draft form, the guide is expected to be finalised by the end of 2024.

Next year, the committee plans to continue their educational efforts with additional webinars and resources to support DSPs in meeting their security obligations and adapting to evolving standards.

# **Payments Working Group**

The newly established <u>Payments Working Group</u> has met five times since its inception in March. The working group is co-chaired by Director Chris Denney and Head of Product Innovation & Enablement at Australian Payments Plus (AP+), Marnie Ryan.

Through the working group, we are keeping members informed about changes in the Australian payments landscape, notably the transition from the Bulk Electronic Clearing System (BECS) to the New Payments Platform (NPP).

The working group has focused on raising awareness amongst members about the role of AP+ in establishing the NPP framework, NPP services to be introduced by payment partners (PayID, PayTo, Confirmation of Payee) and the technical requirements to support payroll and superannuation, such as bulk processing.

In October, we held the Payments Big Day Out Workshop with AP+ in Sydney, bringing together DSPANZ members, ATO staff and representatives from ANZ, Westpac, CBA, NAB and Cuscal to discuss the transition to the NPP. The event provided an interactive forum for members to understand the NPP changes in depth, discuss opportunities and challenges with their peers and hear from banks about their NPP product roadmaps. After positive attendee feedback, we will seek to hold a follow-up session in March 2025.

After spending much of 2024 focusing on the NPP framework, the working group will shift gear in 2025 as we delve deeper into the technical requirements needed to support payroll and superannuation adoption of the NPP.

# **Australian Payroll Monthly Meetings**

DSPANZ hosts monthly meetings for our Australian payroll software provider members, facilitated by Directors Belinda Stewart, Paul Orford, and Simone Dixon.

Throughout the year, the meeting group has discussed Payday Super and regulatory changes impacting payroll and employment processes, including the technical specifications and requirements to support these changes. The meeting group has also collaborated with NSW Industrial Relations on the Long Service Leave Digital Credential Program and proposed updates to the Long Service Leave Act 1955.

DSPANZ Directors Paul Orford and Simone Dixon have participated in several industry payroll events this year to discuss how DSPs support the payroll community. Paul and Simone have participated in events held by the Global Payroll Association (GPA) and the Australian Payroll Association (APA).

### Our Work With Government

DSPANZ has a strong track record of working closely with our peers in government to support consultation and ongoing engagement with DSPs.

Over the past year, we have participated in more than 100 working groups, roundtables and meetings with our members and government. Many of these conversations have focused on the technical feasibility of policy, OECD tax administration 3.0 concepts, implementing Payday Super and constraints for DSPs when utilising AI.

DSPANZ has had the opportunity to meet with notable individuals and organisations in the past year to discuss Australia's tax system digitalisation journey and how we can support small business digitalisation. We have met with the UK Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, James Murray MP, Inspector-General of Taxation and Taxation Ombudsman Ruth Owen and the Board of Taxation. Through the ATO's Strategic Working Group and GST Stewardship Group, we have also met with the new Commissioner of Taxation, Rob Heferen.

We continue to have strong working relationships with the ATO and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to support elnvoicing across the Tasman.

In our work with government, DSPANZ currently co-chairs the ATO's Strategic Working Group and DSP Architecture Reference Group as well as the New Zealand Digital Advisory Group. DSPANZ Directors and members participate in other working and advisory groups to represent DSPs and support specific projects or programs.

# **ATO Strategic Working Group**

Director Matthew Prouse has co-chaired the <u>Strategic Working Group (SWG)</u> for the past two years alongside ATO co-chairs - Elly Stinchcombe, Natalie Ross and Michael Rowell.

In the October meeting, the Commissioner of Taxation attended, which marked the first time in over a decade that a Commissioner has participated in the SWG. The October meeting was also the first for the newly appointed Assistant Commissioner for the Digital Partnership Office (DPO), Fawad Abro.

Over the past year, focus areas for the SWG have included:

- Payday Super
- Compromised identity
- Activity Statement service remediation
- Small Business Future Tax Administration
- Enhancing cyber security



• Digital ID.

Following the success of hosting two virtual industry-led sessions in 2023, the SWG continued this format for 2024. In the industry-led sessions, DSPANZ facilitated conversations on the following topics:

- Federal Budget 2024-25 impacts for DSPs
- Digital Identity and the Australian Government Digital Identity System (AGDIS) with the Department of Finance
- Emerging tax trends around the world
- The Consumer Data Right.

# ATO DSP Architecture Reference Group

DSPANZ Director Mike Behling co-chairs the <u>DSP Architecture Reference Group (DARG)</u> with the ATO Director Michael Ferris. The DARG has met twice so far in 2024, with a final meeting scheduled for November.

Focus areas and topics for discussion at the DARG across 2024 have included:

- Subscription notification channel for DSPs
- Peppol security
- Delivery insight and future program
- Software development kits
- Activity Statement service remediation
- Cyber security opportunities.

# New Zealand Digital Advisory Group

The <u>Digital Advisory Group (DAG)</u> met four times in 2024, with face-to-face meetings in Auckland and Wellington alongside two virtual meetings. The DAG has been co-chaired by Director Allen Knight and Inland Revenue's Digital Ecosystems Strategy Lead Anil Srinivasa across 2023-24.

Over the past year, the group has continued to provide input into Inland Revenue's digital strategy and its foundational components. DSPANZ has supported DAG members and Inland Revenue in proposing uplifts to their terms and conditions for DSPs and introducing a security framework. The group has also discussed creating a New Zealand version of the data minimisation and retention work that DSPANZ published for Australian DSPs.

At the time of writing, expressions of interest to join the DAG in 2025 are open and will close in mid-November.

# **DAG Working Groups**

The DAG hosts ongoing working groups to support specific workstreams and areas of interest for DSPs and Inland Revenue. These working groups include annual changes, payroll and security.

The annual changes working group brings together tax software providers to facilitate consultation and support. The working group has recently kicked off again to work through the annual changes required for 2025.

The <u>payroll working group</u> offers a dedicated space for payroll-specific discussion and is currently co-chaired by Inland Revenue's Payroll Software Developer Specialist, Angela Pearson, and Director Paul Orford. This year, the working group has covered the following topics:

- Tax rate changes from Budget 2024
- Advocating for changes to Employer Superannuation Contribution Tax (ESCT)
- Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme changes
- Reviewing the Payroll Software Developers Casebook to ensure it meets developers' requirements
- Digitalising forms
- Understanding the Labour Inspectorate data requirements during reviews.

The security working group has been working to draft a security framework for DSPs. The group has also covered updates from Inland Revenue on security topics such as multi-factor authentication, OAuth tokens, web application firewalls and standardising ciphers.

# ABS Updating ANZSCO Implementation Working Group

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) created the Updating ANZSCO Implementation Working Group as part of the larger review of the <u>Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)</u> and their task to deliver a Whole of Australian Government (WoAG) occupation coding capability. Director Simone Dixon currently participates in the working group representing DSPs.

This working group has provided the ABS with advice and support to deliver the updated classification, the <u>Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA)</u> and the WoAG Coder, alongside facilitating the adoption of these projects. The working group will continue to advise on the ongoing maintenance program, which will commence in 2025.

DSPANZ provided valuable input into the following topics of discussion:

- Working through common issues and barriers and identifying ways to support adoption and implementation
- Undertaking annual maintenance
- Establishing longer-term partnerships to advise and inform future updates.

### **ASIC Registry Business Advisory Group**

In March 2024, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) held the first meeting of the Registry Business Advisory Group (RBAG) to provide a discussion forum for stakeholders that have a direct interest in the operations and future improvements to the Commonwealth government business registers under the RegistryConnect program. Director Chris Denney represents DSPANZ in this advisory group.

Through the advisory group, DSPANZ wants to ensure an adequate focus on enabling access to the business registers through software across the variety of use cases supported by our members.

The RBAG has initially covered the following areas:

- Stablisiation of the ASIC registers and improving ASIC website content to support improved business interactions
- Review of the professional register search (ASIC beta)
- Discussion on Director ID linking
- RegistryConnect program overview discussion on the 'data spine' concept.

# Payday Super

Since the announcement of Payday Super in the Federal Budget 2023-24, DSPANZ has been involved in several ATO and Treasury workshops and meetings with Treasury officials to inform the government's direction and provide an understanding of the options to deliver the required changes.

The ATO has recently announced the formation of two new working groups to support the consultation process. DSPANZ Public Relations & Policy Manager Maggie Leese will participate in the Payday Super Working Group with Director Chris Denney on the SuperStream Data and Payment Improvements Working Group.

We will look to create a member Payday Super committee in 2025 to support members and keep them updated about this reform.

# Policy

DSPANZ has provided <u>11 submissions</u> to government consultations in 2023-24 with key focus areas including digital identity, Payday Super, Holidays Act reforms and artificial intelligence.

In our submissions, we continue to advocate for ensuring that policy outcomes are workable for DSPs and their customers with a focus on technical feasibility and ensuring there is sufficient time to transition customers.

To support our policy work and conversations with government, we have published resources for our members and stakeholders, including breaking down the DSP software development process and what the shift to providing tax and business experiences in natural systems looks like. Further, we provide our members breakdowns of the Australian Federal and New Zealand Budgets, calling out the items of interest and which government agencies are driving changes impacting DSPs.

Earlier in 2024, we published our paper on <u>Data Minimisation and Retention: Best Practice</u> <u>Guidance for Australian DSPs</u>, which has been driving conversations about record-keeping obligations and the role DSPs play in supporting their customers. We are looking to work with Inland Revenue in 2025 to produce a similar guidance paper for New Zealand DSPs.

We are also developing best practice guidance for DSPs collecting and storing Tax File Numbers (TFNs) as we recognise there is limited information on securing TFNs in software.

More recently, DSPANZ participated in the targeted consultation on the Holidays Act. We worked with our payroll software provider members operating in New Zealand as part of a Holidays Act Committee to inform our submission to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). DSPANZ looks forward to participating in future consultations on the proposed changes.

### **Digital Identity**

Many of our submissions over the past year responded to the Department of Finance's consultations on introducing digital identity (digital ID) legislation to enable Australia's digital ID system. In our responses, we provided feedback on how DSPs would look to leverage digital ID solutions and participate in the Australian Government Digital ID System (AGDIS).

With DSPs potentially driving hundreds of thousands to millions of digital ID transactions a year, DSPANZ continues to engage with the Department on the costs and the resulting impacts for DSPs.

# Payday Super

In late 2023, DSPANZ provided a <u>submission to the Treasury's consultation on Payday Super</u>. Our submission highlighted the complexities in the proposed timeframe to design and deliver Payday Super and recommended that the scope be reduced or the commencement date be extended.

After this consultation period, there was limited new information about Payday Super and growing concerns amongst industry about the 1 July 2026 commencement date. As a result, <a href="DSPANZ publicly called on the government">DSPANZ publicly called on the government</a> to announce further information on Payday Super.

While DSPANZ welcomed the government's update on the policy direction for Payday Super in September 2024, we recognise a significant amount of work is required to finalise the detailed requirements and support DSPs with implementing these changes.

# **Artificial Intelligence**

Australia and New Zealand are increasing their efforts to publish information about using artificial intelligence (AI) and introduce appropriate regulations for public and private sectors. While there is continued consultation in both countries, DSPANZ is advocating for interoperability with global requirements surrounding AI. We are also highlighting the challenges DSPs face when leveraging AI technologies, especially given the current uncertainty about the future regulation of AI in both countries.

# **Looking Ahead**

Over the next year, DSPANZ will continue our role in shaping a secure, efficient digital landscape across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

We will be working closely with the ATO and Inland Revenue on their respective digital strategies and how they move closer to OECD tax administration 3.0 concepts. We expect a lot of change in both countries driving work for DSPs, such as the design and implementation of Payday Super in Australia and reforms to the Holidays Act in New Zealand.

Through our partnership with AP+, we will support our members with changes to the Australian payments landscape and delve into the technical details and requirements for DSPs to move away from BECS.

DSPANZ is excited about what 2025 holds for the business software industry, and we look forward to working alongside our members over the next year.

For more information about DSPANZ, please visit our website or contact hello@dspanz.org.