



Minister for Police

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Dear Dr Fernando

VICTORIA POLICE ACCESS TO QR CODE DATA

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 September 2021 on behalf of the Australian Privacy Foundation regarding Victoria Police access to QR code data in Victoria. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I acknowledge your concerns over the confidentiality of data collection through Service Victoria QR codes. All Service Victoria QR code data is held by the Department of Health and is subject to strict privacy and confidentiality legislation and policies. I am pleased to advise that the Victorian Government has recently introduced new laws into the Parliament that will further safeguard QR code and contact tracing data. The new laws will enshrine a person's right to privacy, with the new framework making it an offence to use information obtained through contact tracing for non-public health purposes. These protections go further than any Australian jurisdiction.

Law enforcement bodies will not be able to access information given to contact tracers and information voluntarily supplied through QR codes, manual check-ins, interview information and other forms of data will be protected. This type of personal information can only be used for public health purposes, except for when consent is given or where someone's life may be at risk.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and for the opportunity to respond to its concerns.

Yours sincerely

Hon Lisa Neville MP
Minister for Police

15/11/21