



To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to nominate myself for one of the civil society positions on the Open Government Forum.

I have demonstrated my support for OGP's vision and the Open Government Declaration through my efforts to educate the public about the government's activities, particularly in relation to its use of data on citizens. I actively covered the ABS' approach to the Census 2016

(e.g. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/justinwarren/2016/08/10/cloud-hangs-over-ibm-after-australian-census-catastrophe/> and https://www.righttoknow.org.au/request/methods_for_linking_datasets_wit), the way Medicare data is used (https://www.righttoknow.org.au/request/supply_of_medicare_and_pharmaceu).

I have also been very active in monitoring the government's use of data with respect to Centrelink (<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/dec/30/centrelink-debt-notice-idiotic-big-data-assumptions-expert>), and its administration of welfare systems. I have sadly become quite familiar with the Freedom of Information Act as a result (https://www.righttoknow.org.au/user/justin_warren/requests).

I believe I have relevant and diverse expertise due to my work as an IT analyst, freelance journalist, and small business owner. I have consulted to the Australian government in the past (at one point holding a security clearance), as well as large enterprises and not-for-profit organisations, on IT systems design and operation. I spend much more of my time now consulting to technology businesses, particularly startups based in the USA, and so have cross-border experience as well as first-hand knowledge of what Silicon Valley is really like. I hold an MBA from Melbourne Business School, and have been a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors since 2006.

I participate in a variety of community networks with a particular focus on technology, privacy, and data governance. Mostly this occurs online, but there is something to be said for meeting in person. I have held leadership positions in various volunteer groups, including President of the UTS Society of Electrical and Computer Systems Engineers in the mid-'90s, and more recently as a committee member of the Melbourne VMware User's Group which organises an annual day-long user conference as well as smaller regular meetings. I also administer an Australian digital rights forum, which is a fancy way of saying I set up a Slack so that we can discuss the issues. We have around 140 participants.

Thus far I have probably had limited influence on government beyond voting, though I have participated in two Senate inquiries recently, and have been dealing with the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner over my experiences with the Department of Human Services FOI unit. It is far too early to tell if any of this has influenced government, yet I remain hopeful.

I thank you for your consideration, and, should I be selected, will serve the Australian people to the best of my ability.

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Justin Warren

Managing Director
PivotNine Pty Ltd

