

# Privacy Policy

Last Updated: December 2023

Thank you for placing your trust in FVA Group Pty Ltd ACN 632 824 698 (“we,” “us”). This Privacy Policy describes how we collect, hold, use, and disclose your information and explains the choices that you have regarding how we use your personal information.

This Privacy Policy applies to all dealings we have with individuals, including customers, guarantors or prospective guarantors, suppliers and service providers, and job applicants.

We are committed to protecting your personal information. By submitting your personal information to us, or by using our services, you acknowledge and consent to us using your personal information in accordance with this Privacy Policy.

This Privacy Policy is intended to enhance the transparency of our operations, to notify you of your rights and our obligations, and to provide you with information regarding:

1. the kinds of personal information which we collect and hold;
2. how we collect, hold, use, and disclose personal information;
3. the purposes for which we collect, hold, use, and disclose personal information;
4. how you may access personal information that is held by us and seek correction of such information;
5. how you may complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles (“**APP**”) or registered APP code (if any) that binds us and how we will deal with such complaints;
6. whether we are likely to disclose personal information to overseas recipients; and
7. if we are likely to disclose personal information to overseas recipients, the countries in which such recipients are likely to be located.

This Privacy Policy sets out how we comply with our obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (“**Act**”).

## **Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that we must take reasonable steps when handling personal information.

Whilst we cannot warrant that this Privacy Policy will be followed in every instance, we will endeavour to follow this Privacy Policy. Similarly, while we cannot warrant that loss, misuse or alteration of information will never occur, we will take all reasonable steps to prevent these things from occurring.

We have taken reasonable steps to endeavour to comply with the APP and the Act, some examples are noted below.

1. Implementation of this Privacy Policy.
2. Staff training and education.

3. Use of checklists to ensure that all APP are complied with.
4. Clear and transparent procedures regarding the handling of complaints and disclosure of information.

If you require a hardcopy of this Privacy Policy, please contact our Privacy Officer on the details below and we will provide you with a copy.

### **The kinds of personal information which we will collect and hold**

#### *Collection*

It is our usual practice to collect personal information directly from the subject individual or their authorised representative(s).

Personal information means information or an opinion (including information or an opinion forming part of a database), whether true or not, and whether recorded in a material form, about an individual whose identity is apparent, or can reasonably be ascertained, from the information or opinion.

Some examples of the personal information we might collect include (but are not limited to):

1. your name;
2. your contact details (such as telephone numbers, addresses (residential and business), and email addresses etc.);
3. your age or date of birth;
4. your occupation and employment details (current and former);
5. personal identification documentation (including government related identifiers);
6. details relating to your use of our goods and services;
7. payment details;
8. banking details;
9. images from video surveillance and other cameras we use; and
10. customer survey information.

#### *Identification*

You may choose to interact with us using a pseudonym and/or not identify yourself.

In circumstances where we are required to do so, or are authorised by law, a court or tribunal to ask for your identification, we will request your personal information.

Further, it is likely that it will be impractical for us to interact with you without some form of identification, and therefore we will request identification details from you at the beginning of each transaction.

For example, we will not be able to open a commercial credit trading account or process a commercial credit application for you without obtaining identification details.

If you do not consent to the collection of your personal information, in accordance with this Privacy Policy, we may not be able to assist you with the provision of certain services.

### **How we will collect and hold your personal information**

We only collect and hold personal information by lawful and fair means.

There are several ways we may collect your personal information, including when you:

1. visit, or submit information through, our website;
2. apply with us for a position of employment or as a contractor;
3. deal with us face-to-face, in writing (by letter, facsimile, or email), or by telephone;
4. participate in any of our events, promotions, or surveys, or subscribe to any of our publications; or
5. submit an application, quotation, purchase order, or service request to us.

In some circumstances, we may collect and hold personal information that has been collected from a third party (such as an associated entity or service provider) or a publicly available source.

This will likely occur in instances where:

1. you have consented for this collection (which would usually be via our privacy statement and/or credit application form); or
2. you would reasonably expect us to collect your personal information in this way and it is necessary for us to collect this information for a specific purpose (such as investigation of a complaint).

We will take steps to hold personal information in a manner which is secure and protected from unauthorised access.

Your personal information may be held in either a physical form or in electronic form on our IT system.

Where stored in electronic form on our IT system, we will take steps to protect the information against modification, disclosure, or misuse by including such things as physical restrictions, password protections, internal and external firewalls, and anti-virus software.

We will also endeavour to ensure that our service providers have protection for electronic IT systems and other necessary restrictions.

We will endeavour to ensure our staff are trained with respect to the security of the personal information we hold, and we will restrict any access where necessary.

While we retain personal information for as long as necessary in relation to the purposes for which it is collected, we will endeavour to destroy and de-identify the personal information once it is no longer required, except as required for business record purposes.

In the event we hold personal information that is unsolicited, and we were not permitted to collect it, the personal information will be destroyed as soon as practicable.

If we collect personal information about you from someone else, we will advise you as soon as practicable that this information has been collected and the circumstances which surround the collection.

### **Cookies and the collection of personal information via our website**

When you visit our website, we may collect information about the session between your computer and our website using cookies.

Cookies are text files which are stored on your computer or mobile device (by your web browser) that record specific information, such as which pages you visit, the information you have searched for, or the device you are using to access our website.

We use cookies for the purposes of managing and improving our website, improving our business processes, and gathering demographic information about the persons who visit our website, among other things.

Third parties may store cookies on our website, including, by way of example, the following entities.

1. Google Analytics (provided by Google Inc.) to enable us:
  - (a) to perform statistical analyses of e.g. number of visitors, information on gender, age, location, interests, and the like to learn about our visitors; and
  - (b) to improve the website friendliness and usability (e.g. on the basis of website traffic measurements).
2. Youtube (provided by YouTube LLC.) to store session preferences (e.g. language) and suggest other content based on your previous uses (only activated when you are logged in to Youtube when visiting our website and only when clicking the YouTube button).
3. Facebook (provided by Meta Platforms, Inc.) to identify users logged in to Facebook for the purpose of sharing content on Facebook (only when you are logged in to Facebook when visiting our website and only when clicking the Facebook button).
4. LinkedIn (provided by LinkedIn Corp.) to enable the “follow” and “share” features of LinkedIn (only when you are logged in to LinkedIn when visiting our website and only when clicking the LinkedIn button).
5. Instagram (provided by Meta Platforms, Inc.) to enable the “pin” and “share” features of Instagram (only when you are logged in to Instagram when visiting our website and only when clicking the Instagram button).
6. X (formerly trading as ‘Twitter’) (provided by Twitter, Inc.) to enable the “tweet” feature of X (only when you are logged in to X when visiting our website and only when clicking the X button).

You may elect to disable or turn off cookies in your web browser, however, this may impact upon the services we are able to offer you on our website and may impact upon your ability to access certain features of our website.

Our server will also automatically record your Internet Protocol address (**IP address**).

An IP address is a numerical designation assigned to each device connected to a computer network by your internet service provider. While IP addresses can be used to identify the general physical location of a computer, they are otherwise anonymous, and we will not use your IP address to identify you.

### **Hiring and recruitment**

If you apply for a position with us, we may also collect information about your experience, character, qualifications, and screening checks (including background, health, references, directorship, financial probity, identity, eligibility to work, vocational suitability, and criminal record checks). Sensitive information will only be collected with your consent.

We collect, use, and disclose your personal information to assess your application, conduct screening checks and consider and contact you about positions available. Your personal information may be exchanged with academic institutions, recruiters, screening check providers, health service providers, professional and trade associations, law enforcement agencies, referees, and your current and previous employers.

We may not be able to further consider you for positions with us without your personal information.

### **The purposes for which we collect and hold personal information**

We will endeavour to only collect and hold personal information which is relevant to the operation of our company.

Our purpose for collecting or holding personal information about you is so that it may be used directly for our business activities.

We may use your personal information for the business activities of our company, which include, among other things:

1. assessing credit applications;
2. reviewing existing credit terms;
3. assessing credit worthiness;
4. collecting overdue payments;
5. assessing credit guarantees (current and prospective);
6. internal management purposes;
7. administering accounts;
8. managing relationships with our customers;
9. dealing with complaints;

10. supplying you with goods and services;
11. facilitating product and service reviews;
12. business development and marketing purposes (including direct marketing);
13. sales and billing;
14. insurance purposes;
15. complying with legal requirements;
16. establishing, exercising, or defending a legal or equitable claim; and
17. training and recruitment.

We may also collect personal information (including sensitive information) for both the primary purposes specified herein and purposes other than the primary purposes, including the purpose of direct marketing.

We may also collect personal information from other credit providers, Credit Reporting Bodies (“**CRBs**”) and any other third parties for the purposes of our business activities including, but not limited to, credit, sales, marketing, and administration.

### **The purposes for which we use and disclose personal information**

We will endeavour to only use and disclose personal information for the primary purposes noted above in relation to the business activities of our company.

In addition, we may also use and disclose personal information (including sensitive information) for both the primary purposes specified herein and purposes other than the primary purposes, including the purpose of direct marketing.

Unless one or more of the below scenarios has occurred, we will take necessary steps to prevent personal information from being given to government agencies or other organisations.

1. You have provided your consent.
2. You would reasonably expect that your information would be so disclosed.
3. We have informed you that your personal information will be provided to a third party.
4. We are required by law to provide your personal information to a government agency or other organisation.
5. The disclosure of the information will prevent a serious threat to somebody’s life or health.
6. The disclosure of the information reasonably necessary for the enforcement of criminal law.

Further we will endeavour to only disclose personal information for the purpose in which it was collected, unless disclosure is reasonably necessary to:

1. assist in locating a missing person;
2. lessen or prevent a serious threat to life, health or safety;
3. take appropriate action with suspected unlawful activity or serious misconduct;
4. facilitate or assist with diplomatic or consular functions or activities;
5. assist certain defence force activities outside Australia;
6. establish or exercise a defined legal or equitable claim; or
7. facilitate or assist confidential alternative dispute resolution activities.

### **Direct Marketing**

We will take steps not to disclose personal information for direct marketing purposes unless you have provided your consent to do so.

In any event you will be provided with an opt out option with respect to direct marketing, should you wish to be excluded from direct marketing.

If you do not elect to 'opt out' to receiving direct marketing material from us, you consent to us using personal information (other than sensitive information) provided to us for direct marketing purposes.

We may however use sensitive information for direct marketing purposes if you provide your consent to do so.

You may at any point in time, request to no longer receive direct marketing material from us by opting out.

We will record this information on our opt out register.

#### *Direct Marketing and Third Parties*

We may also from time to time, if we have received your consent, provide your personal information to a third party for the purposes of direct marketing.

You may at any time request the source of the personal information that has been disclosed.

### **Government related identifiers**

We will endeavour not to use or disclose a government related identifier, unless:

1. the use or disclosure of the identifier is reasonably necessary for us to verify your identity for the purposes of our business activities; or
2. the use or disclosure of the identifier is reasonably necessary for us to fulfil our obligations to an agency or a State or Territory authority; or
3. the use or disclosure of the identifier is required or authorised by or under an Australian law or a court or tribunal order; or

4. a permitted general situation (as that term is defined in the Act) exists in relation to the use or disclosure of the identifier; or
5. we reasonably believe that the use or disclosure of the identifier is reasonably necessary for one or more enforcement related activities conducted by, or on behalf of, an enforcement body.

### **Disclosure to CRBs**

As indicated above, we may disclose personal information to a CRB in accordance with the permitted disclosures as defined under the Act.

We may disclose your Credit Information to the following CRBs listed below.

**Equifax Australia**  
GPO Box 94  
North Sydney NSW 2059  
Tel: 13 8332

**Creditor Watch**  
GPO Box 276  
Sydney NSW 2001  
Tel: 1300 501 312

**NCI**  
PO Box 3315  
Rundle Mall SA 5000  
Tel: 1800 882 820.

**Illion**  
PO Box 7405, St Kilda Road  
Melbourne VIC 3004  
Tel: 13 23 33

**Experian**  
GPO Box 1969  
North Sydney NSW 2060  
Tel: (02) 8907 7200

A copy of the credit reporting policy for the CRBs listed above will be available on their website or will be provided in hard copy upon request.

### **How you may access your personal information**

You are entitled to access your personal information held in our possession.

We will endeavour to respond to your request for personal information within a reasonable time period or as soon as practicable in a manner as requested by you. We will normally respond within thirty (30) days.

You can make a request for access by sending an email or letter addressed to our Privacy Officer, the details of which are as follows.

#### **The Privacy Officer**

Address: 18 – 20 Donald Street, Lithgow NSW 2790  
Telephone: 1800 007 175  
Email: ar@fv.com.au

With any request that is made we will need to authenticate your identity to ensure the correct person is requesting the information.

We will not charge you for making the request, however, if reasonable we may charge you with the costs associated with your request.

You will only be granted access to your personal information where we are permitted or required by law to grant access. We are unable to provide you with access that is unlawful.

Further we are not required to, and will not, give access to personal information to the extent that:

1. we reasonably believe that giving access would pose a serious threat to the life, health, or safety of any individual, or to public health or public safety; or

2. giving access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of other individuals; or
3. the request for access is frivolous or vexatious; or
4. the information relates to existing or anticipated legal proceedings and the information would not be accessible in normal discovery procedures; or
5. giving access would reveal the intentions of us in relation to negotiations and this disclosure would prejudice those negotiations; or
6. denying access is required or authorised by or under an Australian law or a court or tribunal order; or
7. we have reason to suspect that unlawful activity, or misconduct of a serious nature, that relates to our business activities has been, or may be engaged in; or
8. giving access would be likely to prejudice the taking of appropriate action in relation to the matter; or
9. giving access would be likely to prejudice one or more enforcement related activities conducted by, or on behalf of, an enforcement body; or
10. giving access would reveal evaluative information generated within us in connection with a commercially sensitive decision-making process.

If we refuse access to the information, written notice will be provided to you setting out:

1. the reasons for the refusal (except to the extent that, having regard to the grounds for the refusal, it would be unreasonable to do so);
2. the mechanisms available to complain about the refusal; and
3. any other matter prescribed by the regulations.

### **Correction**

Should we hold personal information, and it is inaccurate, out of date, incomplete, irrelevant, or misleading, or incorrect you have the right to make us aware of this fact and request that it be corrected.

If you would like to make a request to correct your information, please contact our Privacy Officer.

In assessing your request, we need to be satisfied that the information is inaccurate, out of date, incomplete, irrelevant, or misleading. We will then take all reasonable steps to ensure that it is accurate, up-to-date, complete, and not misleading.

It is our normal policy to resolve any correction requests within thirty (30) days. If we require further time, we will notify you in writing and seek your consent.

Should we refuse to correct your personal information written notice will be provided to you setting out:

1. the reasons for the refusal (except to the extent that, having regard to the grounds for the refusal, it would be unreasonable to do so); and
2. the mechanisms available to complain about the refusal; and
3. any other matter prescribed by the regulations.

We will endeavour to notify any relevant third parties of the correct personal information where necessary and required.

### **Notifiable Data Breaches**

A Notifiable Data Breach is an event where access to your personal data has been gained and there is a risk of serious harm, or it is suspected that there is a serious risk to you.

In the event of a Notifiable Data Breach, we will notify you. Examples of Notifiable Data Breaches include:

1. loss or theft of physical devices (such as laptops and storage devices) or paper records that contain personal information;
2. unauthorised access to personal information by an employee; and
3. inadvertent disclosure of personal information due to 'human error' (e.g. an email sent to the wrong person).

### **Complaints**

If you wish to make a complaint about a failure of us to comply with our obligations in relation to the Act or the APP please raise this with our Privacy Officer.

We will provide you with a receipt of acknowledgment as soon as practicable.

We will then endeavour to respond to your complaint and attempt to resolve the issues within thirty (30) days.

In dealing with your complaint, we may need to consult another credit provider or third party.

If you are not satisfied with the process of making a complaint to our Privacy Officer, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner, the details of which are below.

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner  
GPO Box 5288 Sydney NSW 2001  
Email: [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au)  
Telephone: 1300 363 992  
Facsimile: +61 2 6123 5145

The Information Commissioner can decline to investigate a complaint on several grounds including, among other things, where the complaint wasn't made at first to us.

For more information about privacy in general, you can visit the Australian Information Commissioner's website: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/>.

### **Disclosure to overseas recipients**

We may choose to, if permitted by law, share and/or disclose your personal information with recipients outside of Australia.

We are required to notify you with a list of any countries which personal information may be transmitted to or disclosed where it is practical for us to do so.

We may share or disclose personal information to overseas recipients in France.

If you have any queries regarding this Privacy Policy or wish to find out more regarding any of our other policies, please contact our Privacy Officer on the details listed above.

### **Security**

We take all reasonable steps to keep secure any information which we hold about you. Personal information may be stored both electronically on our computer system, and in hard-copy form. Firewalls, passwords, anti-virus software, and email filters act to protect our electronic information.

### **Changes to this Privacy Policy**

We will update this Privacy Policy from time to time. We therefore recommend that you read it each time you visit our website. If you do not agree with this Privacy Policy at any time, please do not continue to use our website. If you do continue to use our website, you are deemed to have accepted the terms of this Privacy Policy as they appear at the time of use.