



Making privacy core business

**The “Essential Eight”
For a great Privacy Impact Assessment**

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1. The “Essential Eight” for a great PIA

A great Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) need not be a unicorn, but something we should increasingly see in the marketplace as the privacy profession matures and clients become more discerning. Privcore has developed the “Essential Eight” for a great PIA, adapting the concept of the “[Essential Eight](#)” from the cyber security space, based on its paper, “[What makes a great PIA?](#)”.

The “[Essential Eight](#)” guides public and private sector organisations on the essential cyber security mitigation strategies that organisations should have in place for baseline security. Whilst the Essential Eight are pitched as baseline security, the reality is that many government agencies and private sector entities do not have them all in place.

Privcore has adapted the concept of an “essential eight” and has applied it to the key criteria that contribute to a great PIA, as summarised below.

Privcore’s “Essential Eight” for a great PIA	
1) ADDRESS HIGH RISKS	Performed for high risk personal information processing activities
2) ONGOING	Initiated at the right points of the project’s life (early development, prior to launch, regular intervals after launch)
3) BUY-IN	Has buy-in from business and/or government decision makers
4) WELL-DEFINED SCOPE	Ensures a holistic lens can be applied through a well-defined scope
5) ADDS VALUE	Conducted from a performance perspective, not just compliance
6) DOWNSTREAM LENS	Looks at the risks not just of the organisation, but also its customers’ or citizens’ risks and potentially other participants in the ecosystem
7) RESOURCED	Resourced, as appropriate, internally or externally with a PIA provider that meets applicable criteria
8) AVAILABLE	Is available to the public – particularly where public trust and confidence is valued

2. About Privcore

[Privcore’s](#) team with 40 years’ combined experience helps business and government make privacy core business, so they can deliver services with the trust and confidence of customers and citizens. Privcore conducts privacy impact assessments, privacy health checks or audits, data breach prevention and recovery, privacy by design, builds privacy programs, provides advice, policies and conducts research into privacy and cybersecurity.

[Annelies Moens](#), CIPP/E, CIPT, FIP, FAICD, CMgr FIML, a [Superstar of STEM in 2021-2022](#) and a privacy professional practising since 2001 founded Privcore. She has led and conducted hundreds of privacy consulting deliverables globally. She is a former President of the International Association of Privacy Professionals which she co-founded in Australia and New Zealand in 2008. She has been instrumental in shaping and building the privacy profession in Australia and New Zealand and influencing privacy developments in APEC. She also has extensive privacy regulatory experience and resolved hundreds of privacy complaints whilst working at the Australian privacy regulator.

