

Thursday 3rd June 2021

Secretary of State for the Home Department
The Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

Dear Home Secretary,

Formal Review of the Computer Misuse Act 1990

We are writing regarding the formal review of the Computer Misuse Act that you announced in your speech to the CyberUK conference on 11 May.

techUK and the CyberUp Campaign share the desire to see a legal framework in the UK that is best able to assist UK law enforcement in defending the UK from an ever-evolving array of cyber threats, and that supports a thriving and internationally competitive UK cyber security industry. As a leading cyber nation, the UK must maintain its competitive edge, countering the evolving threat landscape and ensuring that all the right levers and tools are available to detect, disrupt and deter our adversaries, keeping citizens and businesses safe.

We are delighted that the Home Office recognises that the reliance of society on the digital world has increased enormously since the Computer Misuse Act received Royal Assent in 1990. As you know, techUK and the CyberUp Campaign, in our report '*Time for reform?*' in November 2020, called for a review of the Act and encouraged the Home Office to consult widely to design future-proof legislation that allows a trusted industry to put its best foot forward in making the UK more resilient to cyber-attacks.

We wanted to offer our support as the Home Office continues to explore options over the coming months and can confirm that both techUK and the CyberUP Campaign will:

- Respond to the open Call for Information, as well as encouraging our relevant individual members to input all appropriate input and evidence;
- Be ready to engage with your officials to ensure active industry engagement throughout this process, including through structured workshops, roundtables and through providing written evidence; and
- Proactively engage in supporting ideas for a renewed, forward looking framework which works for all key stakeholders, and improves outcomes for citizens and businesses alike.

We have already begun to engage with your officials in the relevant teams and look forward to the opportunity to meet and discuss these issues in the appropriate fora, to present our proposals in detail, discuss any concerns and answer any follow-up questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian David".

Julian David
CEO, techUK

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ollie Whitehouse".

Ollie Whitehouse
CTO, NCC Group, on behalf of the CyberUp Campaign

