



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

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13 December 2023

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Chair
Science, Innovation, and Technology Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Greg,

I am writing to draw your attention to the Government's intention to publish a consultation tomorrow on proposals for a statutory framework to protect and enhance the security and resilience of UK data infrastructure. It would require third party data centre providers to demonstrate they have measures in place to protect against potential disruption or compromise. The consultation builds on our Call for Views on the risk landscape launched in 2022 and invites input from various stakeholders, including data centre operators and owners, cloud and managed service providers, and sector experts.

The proposals mean that relevant data centres operating in the UK would be required to have tough security and resilience measures, mitigating against a variety of potential disruptions, including cyber-attacks and extreme weather events. The proposals would introduce new mechanisms and obligations, including incident reporting and minimum requirements to ensure data centre providers are taking appropriate steps to protect data.

Alongside protecting the security and resilience of data infrastructure in the UK, the new framework is expected to support economic growth by making the UK a more attractive place to invest in data industries. We also seek views on potential voluntary and support measures and considerations around the potential Critical National Infrastructure designation of parts of the sector.

I appreciate the Committee's interest in this vital work and I look forward to my department continuing to engage with your Committee.

With best wishes,

Rt Hon Sir John Whittingdale OBE MP
Minister for Data and Digital Infrastructure

