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Chi Onwurah MP
Chair, Science, Innovation and Technology
Committee

21 March 2025

Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, Culture, Media and Sport Committee

Dear Chi and Caroline,

Thank you for your joint letter and submission to the consultation on Copyright and Artificial Intelligence. We appreciate you taking the time and effort over this issue which we know is of vital interest to members of both of your Committees and, indeed, the whole House.

As Secretaries of State for both Technology and the Creative Sector, we share your commitment to finding a balance between protecting copyright in the creative sector and enabling training of large language models in the UK. The engagement of both your Committees, along with your recommendations on copyright, transparency and extra-territorial effect are an important contribution.

We have shared your correspondence with officials at the IPO, who are leading this work. We have asked that they take on board your comments and include them in their analysis.

The case for copyright

The consultation, which closed on 25 February after 10 weeks, aimed to develop an approach to copyright and AI which can be implemented to balance the interests of AI developers and rights holders. This generated more than 11,500 responses and a great deal of interest both in Parliament and the media. We want to use the opportunity to be clear that no decision has yet been taken on the final policy. We are carefully reviewing all responses to ensure any proposals taken forward properly support both sectors, delivering a solution which will allow them to thrive.



Transparency has been a guiding principle of our work. We published an options assessment alongside the consultation which sets out the expected impacts of different options. However, publicly available evidence is limited in this area, which is why we also sought economic evidence through our consultation process.

As regards other jurisdictions, the Government is aware of various international developments and specific cases relating to AI and copyright, including recent legislation in other jurisdictions and instances of AI systems using copyrighted content. Some have set out their approaches relating to text and data mining and others are evolving.

While we continue to monitor these developments, our consultation focused on developing an approach that works for the UK's specific circumstances, building on our strong copyright framework and valuable IP ecosystem. We want a set of British copyright rules that encourage AI training here, while being respected wherever training occurs, ensuring creators have the control, transparency and support for licensing that our consultation underlines as our objectives. Our priority now is to review the evidence from the consultation which will inform the Government response.

Engagement with Creative Industries and AI sector

The Government remains committed to engagement with both the creative industries and AI sector.

As Secretaries of State, we have prioritised engagement around this crucial issue. DSIT and DCMS Ministers and officials have been meeting with the creative industries, press and AI sector before and throughout the consultation period, including at roundtables chaired by Ministers Bryant and Clark. Officials are drawing up plans to set up technical working groups with stakeholders to take forward proposals on transparency, technical solutions and standards. We will continue to engage extensively as we consider next steps, and our proposals will be set out in due course.

Compliance, enforcement and redress

We would like to reiterate that with regards to any future legislation, the implementation of any text and data mining exception is contingent upon having workable technical solutions in place for rights reservation. The Government will not proceed with legislation unless and until these technical requirements are met.

As you are aware, the consultation has only just closed and received more than 11,500 responses. We cannot provide a firm timeline for next steps at this point as officials are in the process of reviewing the responses, but we will publish a Government response and summary of responses in due course. We would be happy to meet to discuss these issues further.

Yours sincerely,



Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP

**Secretary of State for Science, Innovation
and Technology**



Rt Hon Lisa Nandy MP

**Secretary of State for Culture, Media and
Sport**