



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

Sir Chris Bryant MP
Minister of State for Data
Protection & Telecoms
Department for Science,
Innovation & Technology
100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ

www.gov.uk/dsit

1 July 2025

Dear Dame Chi,

Implementation of the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025

I am writing to outline to you and your committee the Government's plans for implementing the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, which was enacted on 19 June 2025. As you are aware, this is a wide-ranging Act which includes measures from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, the Intellectual Property Office, the Home Office, Department of Health and Social Care, Ministry of Justice, Department for Business and Trade and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Some of the Act's provisions will come into force automatically by virtue of section 142. This includes any regulation-making powers in the Act, including those in Part 1 allowing for the future development of Smart Data Schemes. However, many of the Act's provisions will need to be commenced via regulations.

We plan to commence the Act's provisions in four main stages:

- Stage 1, approximately two months after Royal Assent, will include the commencement of technical provisions which clarify aspects of the legal framework; and measures requiring the government to publish an impact assessment, a report and a progress update on AI and copyright issues.
- Stage 2, three to four months after Royal Assent, will include the commencement of the majority of the measures on Digital Verification Services in Part 2 of the Act; and

the measures in Part 7 on the retention of information by providers of internet services in connection with the death of a child.

- Stage 3, approximately 6 months after Royal Assent, will include the commencement of the main changes to data protection legislation in Part 5 of the Act; and the provisions on information standards for health and adult social care in England in Part 7.
- Stage 4, more than 6 months after Royal Assent, will include the commencement of provisions that require a longer lead-in time. Examples include measures on the National Underground Register in Part 3; and the electronic system of registering births and deaths in Part 4 which rely on the appropriate technology being in place. Changes to ICO governance structures in Part 6 will take place once members of the new Board have been appointed. This is expected in early 2026.

This is not a complete list of measures in the Act but is intended to illustrate our staged approach to commencement in the months ahead. Section 141 of the Act explains which provisions apply throughout the UK and which are limited to certain parts of the UK.

Over the coming months, we will work closely with relevant regulators and other key stakeholders to ensure smooth and effective implementation. We will be publishing information on the GOV.UK website about the measures in the Act and our plans for commencement to ensure transparency and accessibility for all.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks for your support during passage of the Bill, and I look forward to keeping you updated in the months ahead as we implement the Act.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Bryant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "B".

Sir Chris Bryant MP
Minister of State for Data Protection and Telecoms