

Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP & The Rt Hon Ian Murray MP
Security Minister &
Minister for Digital Government and Data

Dame Chi Onwurah MP
Chair of the Science, Innovation and Technology Committee
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA

15 July 2026

Dear Dame Chi,

PUBLICATION OF THE MODEL ACTION PLAN FOR RESPONDING TO SIGNIFICANT DATA BREACHES

We are writing to inform you that the Government is today publishing the *Model Action Plan for Responding to Significant Data Breaches*.

This Government is firmly committed to raising information security standards. The publication of the Model Action Plan (MAP) forms part of the package of measures issued to your Committee in October 2025 and enables us to strengthen our cross-government resilience to high profile incidents, which can result in acute risks to life, severe financial liabilities, and serious national security implications.

We acknowledge the Committee's concerns regarding the need for structural reform; we've been working at pace to address this and have developed a common playbook to ensure that if a breach does occur our response is rapid, rehearsed, and consistent across multiple organisations and procedures.

The MAP places the safeguarding of vulnerable individuals at its core. The MAP has been developed by the Cabinet Office and DSIT in consultation with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) as part of our recent Memorandum of Understanding, drawing on their best practice to ensure organisations meet these rigorous requirements.

Under the MAP, government organisations will now be required to notify the recently established Government Data Protection Team within the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) within 72 hours of a significant breach. This will ensure formal logging and comprehensive cross-government analysis, creating a government-wide understanding of breach volumes, patterns, and systemic weaknesses. Ultimately, this data will allow for more targeted, preventative interventions to help raise our standards.

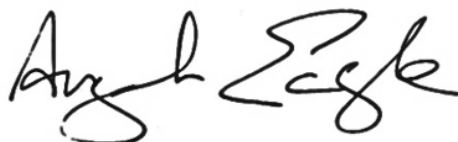
To ensure effective implementation, the Cabinet Office and the Government Data Protection Team will support departments as they embed these processes.

We remain fully committed to providing regular updates on the Government's progress on raising information security standards and engaging with your ongoing inquiry into information and data security.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Murray', with a long horizontal flourish extending from the end.

The Rt Hon Ian Murray MP
Minister for Digital Government and Data

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Eagle', with a large, stylized 'A' and 'E'.

Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP
Security Minister