



MINUTES

Session 2026–27

COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 8th Meeting, held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 1 September 2026

Present: Baroness Caine of Kentish Town
Viscount Colville of Culross
Lord Holmes of Richmond
Baroness Keeley (Chair)
Lord Kirkhope of Harrogate
Lord Knight of Weymouth
Lord McNally
Baroness Owen of Alderley Edge
Lord Storey
Lord Tarassenko
The Lord Bishop of Winchester

1. Apologies and notices

Apologies were received from Baroness Elliott of Whitburn Bay and Baroness Fleet.

2. Online safety: settlement of Meta lawsuit

The Committee took note of a note by the policy analyst (**SCC/26-27/027**), which was tabled at the meeting, on the settlement of a lawsuit brought by US states against Meta.

3. Online Safety Act inquiry: declarations of interests

The Committee took note of a note by the clerk (**SCC/26-27/024**) on declaring interests for the new inquiry.

4. Online Safety Act inquiry: oral evidence

At 2.30 pm the Committee heard evidence from:

- Dame Rachel de Souza DBE, Children's Commissioner for England

A full transcript was taken.

The following members declared relevant interests:

Baroness Owen of Alderley Edge receives pro bono legal advice from Mishcon de Reya to assist with work on image-based sexual abuse; and is a member of the advisory board for Araya Ventures, a venture capital company.

Lord Tarassenko is working with the Raspberry Pi Foundation to develop a Level 3 qualification on data science and AI.

5. Date of next meeting

The Committee would next meet on Tuesday 8 September at 2.00 pm in a committee room tbc.

2 September 2026