

Online Information Advisory Committee minutes 1(25)

Publication Minutes of the first meeting of the Online Information Advisory Committee held on 16 May 2025 at Riverside House, London SE1 9HA

Present

Richard Allan	Chair and Ofcom Board Member
Elisabeth Costa	Committee Member
Jeff Howard	Committee Member
Will Moy	Committee Member
Mark Scott	Committee Member
Devika Shanker-Grandpierre	Committee Member

In attendance

Colleagues from the Online Safety Group
Governance Manager

Item 1: Welcome and declaration of members' interests

1. The Chair welcomed Members and attendees to the first meeting of the Committee.
2. No new declarations of interest were noted.

Item 2: Introductions

3. The Chair, Committee Members and Ofcom colleagues introduced themselves and explained briefly their areas of expertise.

Item 3: Ofcom and remit on misinformation and disinformation

4. The Committee was given an overview of Ofcom and its various Groups, with a focus on the structure of the Online Safety Group (OSG) and its close working with other Groups and teams across other disciplines in Ofcom, and Ofcom's remit in relation to misinformation and disinformation.
5. Members discussed the legal landscape of UK laws and regulatory schemes that apply to different types of misinformation and disinformation.

Item 3: Work programme development 6. Members discussed working practices. The Committee would be research and evidence-led and its outputs a series of published advice notes on protecting people from specific types of harm generated by misinformation and disinformation. Advice notes would be shared with the Ofcom Board prior to publication. 7. The Committee would also advise on Ofcom's work as appropriate. 8. There was discussion about the practicalities of this agreed working model, the support that would be provided by the OSG and more widely in Ofcom and the frequency of Committee meetings.
Item 4: Priorities 9. Members suggested and worked through a long-list of potential areas of study that could be covered in future advice notes. The list was narrowed down to determine priority areas and the Committee agreed to focus initially on the intersection of misinformation and disinformation and ways in which people in the UK experience financial harm.
Item 5: Production 10. Members discussed and agreed an initial drafting process and format for advice notes. These were expected to be structured to describe the problem being addressed; review relevant literature and evidence; highlight relevant law and regulation; and conclude with the Committee's advice.
Item 6: Any other business 11. There was no other business.
Item 7: Date of the next meeting 12. The next Committee meeting would be held in June 2025 (date TBC).