

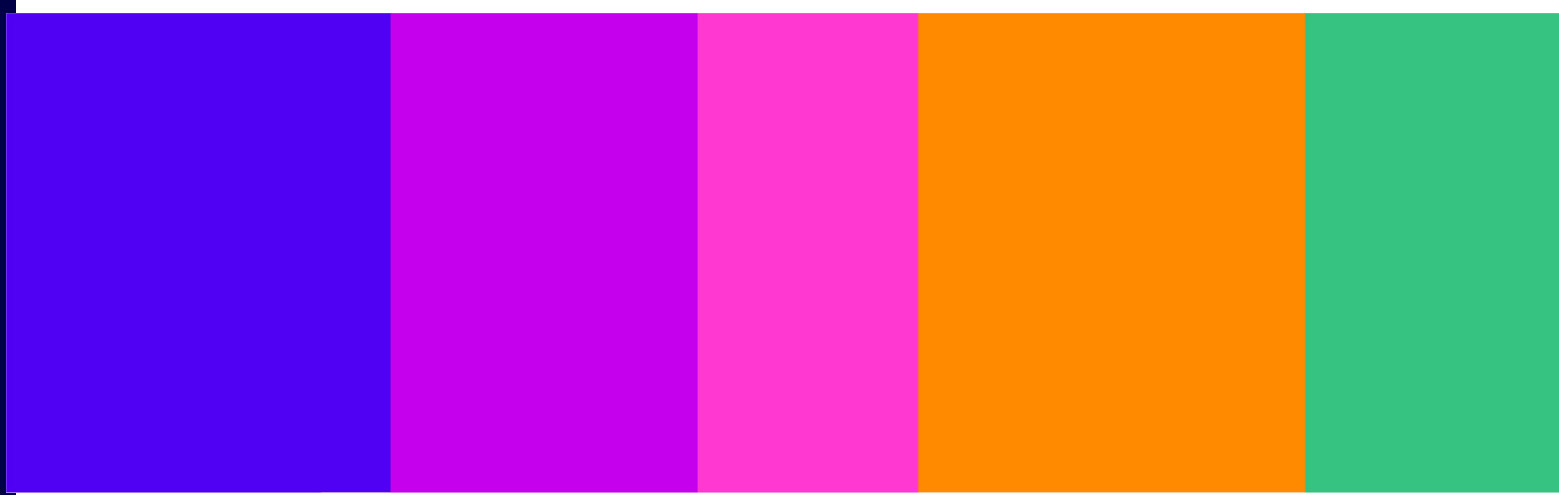
Technology Notices to deal with terrorism content and/or CSEA content

Annexes 1-4: Responding to this Consultation

Consultation

Published: 16 December 2024

Closing date for responses: 10 March 2024



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A1. Responding to this consultation

How to respond

- A1.1 Ofcom would like to receive views and comments on the issues raised in this document, by 5pm on 10 March 2024.
- A1.2 You can download a response form from our [webpage](#). You can return this by email or post to the address provided in the response form.
- A1.3 If your response is a large file, or has supporting charts, tables or other data, please email it to technologynotices@ofcom.org.uk, as an attachment in Microsoft Word format, together with the cover sheet. This email address is for this consultation only and will not be valid after 10 March 2024.
- A1.4 Responses may alternatively be posted to the address below, marked with the title of the consultation:
- Technology Notices Team
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
- A1.5 We welcome responses in formats other than print, for example an audio recording or a British Sign Language video. To respond in BSL:
- send us a recording of you signing your response. This should be no longer than 5 minutes. Suitable file formats are DVDs, .wmv or QuickTime files; or
 - upload a video of you signing your response directly to YouTube (or another hosting site) and send us the link.
- A1.6 We will publish a transcript of any audio or video responses we receive (unless your response is confidential).
- A1.7 We do not need a paper copy of your response as well as an electronic version. We will acknowledge receipt of a response submitted to us by email.
- A1.8 You do not have to answer all the questions in the consultation if you do not have a view; a short response on just one point is fine. We also welcome joint responses.
- A1.9 It would be helpful if your response could include direct answers to the questions asked in the consultation document. The questions are listed in Annex 4. It would also help if you could explain why you hold your views, and what you think the effect of Ofcom's proposals would be.
- A1.10 If you want to discuss the issues and questions raised in this consultation, please email technologynotices@ofcom.org.uk.

Confidentiality

- A1.11 Consultations are more effective if we publish the responses before the consultation period closes. This can help people and organisations with limited resources or familiarity with the issues to respond in a more informed way. So, in the interests of transparency and good regulatory practice, and because we believe it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other respondents' views, we usually publish responses on the Ofcom website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period.
- A1.12 If you think your response should be kept confidential, please specify which part(s) this applies to and explain why. Please send any confidential sections as a separate annex. If you want your name, address, other contact details or job title to remain confidential, please provide them only in the cover sheet, so that we don't have to edit your response.
- A1.13 If someone asks us to keep part or all of a response confidential, we will treat this request seriously and try to respect it, either by not publishing the response at all, or by only publishing the bits that are not confidential. Sometimes we might think it is important to disclose parts of a response that have been marked as confidential for reasons of transparency, but we will consult you before we do. Occasionally we might have a legal obligation to publish information or disclose it in court, but again, as far as possible, we will let you know.
- A1.14 Even if your response is not marked as confidential, we might still decide not to publish all or part of it in certain circumstances. For example, if we have concerns about the impact on your privacy or the privacy of others, that the content of the response might facilitate the commission of crime, or about the sensitive nature of the content more generally. If we decide not to publish all or part of your response, we will still take it into account in our consideration of the matter.
- A1.15 To fulfil our pre-disclosure duty, we may share a copy of your response with the relevant government department before we publish it on our website.
- A1.16 Please also note that copyright and all other intellectual property in responses will be assumed to be licensed to Ofcom to use. Ofcom's intellectual property rights are explained further in our Terms of Use.

Next steps

- A1.17 Taking account of further work to understand how accreditation could work, and subject to consultation responses, we expect to issue our advice on minimum standards of accuracy to the Secretary of State in 2025 unless we consider that further consultation may be appropriate.
- A1.18 If you wish, you can register to receive mail updates alerting you to new Ofcom publications.

Ofcom's consultation processes

- A1.19 Ofcom aims to make responding to a consultation as easy as possible. For more information, please see our consultation principles in Annex 2.
- A1.20 If you have any comments or suggestions on how we manage our consultations, please email us at consult@ofcom.org.uk. We particularly welcome ideas on how Ofcom could more effectively seek the views of groups or individuals, such as small businesses and

residential consumers, who are less likely to give their opinions through a formal consultation.

A1.21 If you would like to discuss these issues, or Ofcom's consultation processes more generally, please contact the corporation secretary:

Corporation Secretary

Ofcom

Riverside House

2a Southwark Bridge Road

London SE1 9HA

Email: corporationsecretary@ofcom.org.uk

A2. Ofcom's consultation principles

A2.1 Ofcom has seven principles that it follows for every public written consultation:

Before the consultation

A2.2 Wherever possible, we will hold informal talks with people and organisations before announcing a big consultation, to find out whether we are thinking along the right lines. If we do not have enough time to do this, we will hold an open meeting to explain our proposals, shortly after announcing the consultation.

During the consultation

A2.3 We will be clear about whom we are consulting, why, on what questions and for how long.

A2.4 We will make the consultation document as short and simple as possible, with an overview of no more than two pages. We will try to make it as easy as possible for people to give us a written response.

A2.5 When setting the length of the consultation period, we will consider the nature of our proposals and their potential impact. We will always make clear the closing date for responses.

A2.6 A person within Ofcom will be in charge of making sure we follow our own guidelines and aim to reach the largest possible number of people and organisations who may be interested in the outcome of our decisions. Ofcom's Consultation Champion is the main person to contact if you have views on the way we run our consultations.

A2.7 If we are not able to follow any of these seven principles, we will explain why.

After the consultation

A2.8 We think it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other people's views, so we usually publish the responses on our website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. After the consultation we will make our decisions and publish a statement explaining what we are going to do, and why, showing how respondents' views helped to shape these decisions.

A3. Consultation coversheet

Basic details

Consultation title:

To (Ofcom contact):

Name of respondent:

Representing (self or organisation/s):

Address (if not received by email):

Confidentiality

Please tick below what part of your response you consider is confidential, giving your reasons why

- > Nothing
- > Name/contact details/job title
- > Whole response
- > Organisation
- > Part of the response

If you selected 'Part of the response', please specify which parts:

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation not to be published, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

Yes No

Declaration

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response that Ofcom can publish. However, in supplying this response, I understand that Ofcom may need to publish all responses, including those which are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom aims to publish responses at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. If your response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and you would prefer us to publish your response only once the consultation has ended, please tick here.

Name

Signed (if hard copy)

A4. Consultation questions

A4.1 We welcome views and evidence on the questions below. It is not necessary to answer every question – please answer those on which you have a view.

Section 4: Minimum Standards of Accuracy

Question 1

Do you have any views on our audit-based assessment, including our proposed principles, objectives, and the scoring system? Please provide evidence to support your response.

Question 2

Do you have any views on our proposals for independent performance testing, including the two mechanisms for setting thresholds; the approach to testing technologies in categories against particular metrics; and data considerations? Please provide evidence to support your response.

Question 3

Do you have any comments on what Ofcom might consider in terms of how long technologies should be accredited for and how often technologies should be given the opportunity to apply for accreditation? Is there any further evidence we should consider?

Question 4

Do you have any views on how to turn these proposals into an operational accreditation scheme, including the practicalities of submitting technology for accreditation? Is there any additional evidence that you think we should consider? Please provide any information that may be relevant.

Section 5: Guidance for providers

Question 5

Do you have any comments on our draft Technology Notice Guidance?