

Sir Nigel Sheinwald - Special Envoy

The Prime Minister has appointed Sir Nigel Sheinwald, a former senior member of HM Diplomatic Service and Ambassador to the United States from 2007 to 2012, as Special Envoy on intelligence and law enforcement data sharing. This role was prefigured during the passage of the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act in July.

Sir Nigel will lead discussions with the US Government, other key international partners and the Communications Service Providers (CSPs) on ways to improve the accessing of this data in different jurisdictions. He will seek to:

- Identify ways to take forward the British Government's relationships with the CSPs and ensure that the British Government's work in this area is coherent with its broader relationships with the CSPs, and vice versa.
- Explore how new formal US/UK arrangements could improve data access for the UK agencies.
- Work with the US Government and CSPs on a range of options for strengthening arrangements and ensuring reliable access, e.g. through Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty systems, other legal or political frameworks or remedies, better arrangements for direct requests from the UK agencies to the companies which hold the data, or other means.
- Consider wider international arrangements in this area
- Ensure that any new arrangements observe the requirement that data is requested and provided only where necessary and proportionate for the purposes of national security and the prevention or detection of serious crime.