

UK COUNCIL FOR CHILD INTERNET SAFETY

Executive Board meeting minutes

5 December 2017, 12:30 - 14:00

Committee Room 5, Palace of Westminster

Chair: Matt Hancock MP, Minister for Digital, DCMS

Present:

Matt Hancock MP, Minister for Digital, Dept for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Sam Sharps, Apple

David Austin, British Board of Film Classification

Dhy Flitcroft, CEOP

Marie Smith, CEOP

Will Gardner, Childnet International

Tessy Ojo, The Diana Award

Alex Holmes, The Diana Award

Katie O'Donovan, Google

Carolyn Bunting, Internet Matters

Michael Tunks, Internet Watch Foundation

Prof. Livingstone Livingstone, London School of Economics

Tony Stower, NSPCC

Alasdair MacInnes, Northern Ireland Executive

Tony Close, Ofcom

Sophie Linington, Parentzone

Adam Kinsley, Sky

Iain Wood, TalkTalk

Dr Richard Graham, Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust

Jo Twist, UKIE

Daniel Butler, Virgin Media

Paul Morris, Vodafone

Ruth Meadows, Welsh Assembly

Rebecca Egan, Home Office

Sophie Taylor, Dept for Education

Rachael Bishop, Dept for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Joe Lynch, Dept for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Samantha Kelly, Dept for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Michael Bell, Dept for Education

Emily Fei, Home Office

Eirteqa Sultan, Home Office

Apologies:

Robert Goodwill, Minister for Children and Families

Victoria Atkins, Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability

Rose Durban, Association of Directors of Children's Services

John Carr, Children's Charities Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)

Rebecca Stimson, Facebook

Alice Webb, BBC Childrens' and BBC North

Item 1 - Welcome

1. Matt Hancock (MH) opened the meeting by welcoming Board Members. He commented that it was good to see such a wide range of organisations represented. MH said that the sector has matured since the founding of UKCCIS and that the meeting would be used to discuss UKCCIS's role in light of the Internet Safety Strategy which was published in October.

Item 2 - Overview of the Internet Safety Strategy and UKCCIS remodelling

2. MH explained that the Strategy sets out HMG's plans to remodel UKCCIS - expanding the Council's remit and streamlining the Board and Working Groups to make UKCCIS more effective.

Executive Board and remit of UKCIS

3. MH stated that the remodelled UKCCIS will cover all users, not just children. Therefore its name will change to the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS). MH expressed how he wanted the changes to be an evolution of the existing Council, building on its previous good work.
4. The Board was broadly happy with the proposed changes and agreed that it would be beneficial to have a set of new objectives and priorities covering the Council's wider remit. Some members expressed concern that the Council's new remit would mean less focus on child protection issues. MH emphasised that, despite covering all users, the Board will have processes in place to ensure a continued focus on children and young people.
5. Board members discussed the types of harms which the remodelled Council would cover and the varied ways of protecting different vulnerable groups. MH was clear that UKCIS would cover all types of harms including legal but harmful behaviour, as well as illegal activities, including child sexual abuse imagery.
6. MH agreed to consider the need for additional resources as part of wider work on remodelling the Council.

Role of the working groups

7. MH stated that the UKCIS working groups (WG) would need to take a strategic approach to their work programmes, with the WGs reporting to the Executive Board. The Board will also need to be nimble so able to react to issues as well as horizon scanning to anticipate future areas of concern.
8. MH highlighted that changes to UKCIS will ensure that a wider range of online safety issues are addressed, enabling us to respond to the evolving nature of the Internet.
9. Board members agreed that a set of clear objectives for UKCIS, agreed by Government, would enable the WGs to directly deliver on priorities. The Board raised

a number of issues which could be considered, including the impact of the Internet on mental health and Home Office flagged that they would want to use UKCIS to tackle some of their policy areas including child sexual exploitation.

10. MH stressed the importance of the UK providing leadership on online safety. He agreed to consider how the chairing and secretariat models could be improved to help UKCIS retain its world-leading status.

Update from Google

11. MH invited Katie O'Donovan (KD) from Google to provide an update on their transparency announcement.
12. KD explained that Google will start publishing transparency reports in 2018 covering flagged content and Google will provide personal reports to individuals who report content. By the end of 2018, Google will have 10,000 people and will also be using AI and machine learning to identify inappropriate content.
13. KD explained that it can be difficult for a single company to anticipate future harms. Therefore bodies such as UKCIS play an important role in highlighting safety concerns. KD suggested that UKCIS should build on the work of those tackling cybercrime where law enforcement and industry share information to prevent harm.

Any other business

14. Board members agreed that it was important for the remodelled UKCIS to consult young people.
15. MH asked the Board to consider the applications for Associate Membership and contact the Secretariat if they wished to raise any objections.
16. MH thanked everybody for their attendance and stated that the application process for the remodelled UKCIS Executive Board would open in early 2018.