Notes: UKCCIS Executive Board
09 September 2014, 15:00-16:00
Department for Education
Chair: Edward Timpson, MP

Attendees:

Edward Timpson, MP (Chair)	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families
Ed Vaizey, MP	Minister of State for Culture and the Digital Economy (departed at 15.35)
Mike Penning, MP	Minister of State for Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims
Cindy Rose	Managing Director, Consumer Division, Vodafone
Claudio Pollack	Director Consumer Group, Ofcom
Susie Hargreaves,	CEO, Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)
Jo Twist	CEO, UKIE
Catherine Duggan	Head of Child Protection, Scottish Executive
Daniel Butler	Head of Public Affairs, Virgin Media
Adam Kinsley	Director of Policy, Sky, BskyB
Julian Ashworth,	Chief Strategy Officer, BT
Vicki Shotbolt	CEO, Parentzone
Alex Birtles	Head of External Communications, TalkTalk
David Austin	BBFC (in place of David Cooke)
Rishi Saha	Facebook (in place of Simon Milner)
Andy Brennan	CEOP (in place of Jonny Gwynne)
Rt Hon Maria Miller, MP	(to present an item)
Rosemary Pratt	Head of Prevent, Home Office (to present an item)
Anne Heal	MD, Strategy & Propositions Openreach (to present an item)

Apologies received from:

Peter Liver,	NSPCC
Simon Milner	Facebook
Naomi Gummer	Google
John Carr	CHIS
Sonia Livingstone	LSE
Dave Miles	FOSI
David Cooke	BBFC
Will Gardner	CEO, Safer Internet Centre
Nicola Hodson	Microsoft
Tink Palmer	Marie Collins Foundation
Jonny Gwynne	CEO, CEOP
Claire Thwaites	Apple (Observer)

Observers:

Martin Gibbs	Equity and Social Inclusion Branch, Department of Health
Lyndsey Lancaster	Criminal and Civil Law Policy Unit, Ministry of Justice
Alex Strugnell	OSCT Prevent, Home Office
Isabel Evans	Department for Education (PS/Edward Timpson)
Jack Hindley	DCMS (PS/Ed Vaizey)
Nikita Cannan	HO (PS/Mike Penning)
Anna Payne	DCMS (Secretariat)
Ellie Mond	DCMS (Secretariat)
Samantha Kelly	DCMS (Secretariat)

Item 1 - Welcome, introductions, apologies and declaring interests

1. The Chair opened the meeting, noted that a number of people could not attend, but hoped it would lend a greater focus to the meeting. He also welcomed the new Home Office/Ministry of Justice Minister Mike Penning MP.

2. The Chair asked if any Board Members had objections to Nick England (VFX Finance Ltd)'s application to become an Associate Member of UKCCIS – none were given.

3. He also reminded members to declare interests, where appropriate, in advance of discussion on agenda items and reminded Executive Board members of their responsibilities to represent their wider sectors.

4. He drew attention to two outstanding items from the previous meeting:

    i. members to consider joining the Internet Matters editorial board

    ii. DCMS officials to organise demonstrations of ISPs filters for Board Members. He noted that the secretariat had only received a couple of requests, and asked Board Members to confirm with the secretariat if they would find it valuable.

5. He noted that the new Secretary of State at the Department for Education has an interest in UKCCIS and the protection of girls and women on the internet, and intends to engage with the Board.

Item 2 – Revenge Porn

6. The Chair welcomed The Rt Hon Maria Miller MP and invited her to brief the Board on current progress and explore how the Board could help.

7. MM argued that the posting of sexual images of adults without their consent should be classified as a sexual offence. The law is currently opaque in this area and there is a need for guidance. The next generation are used to using phones to send sexual images but may be unaware of the dangers this presents

8. Victims raise two pertinent issues – reporting mechanisms are not easy to use and there are no warnings that this activity is illegal (with notable exceptions including Facebook). Victims also find it hard to get support. A media organisation has put a FOI request to police organisations, the result of which is indicating that we could be underestimating the scale of the problem. .

9. MM argued that industry can come together successfully to tackle this sort of problem – often more successfully than government intervention. She was interested in the Board's feedback on where the industry is working well to tackle Revenge Porn and where further work is required.

10. Discussion points included:
    - Nudity isn't permitted on Facebook so these images wouldn't be allowed. There is also a clear reporting mechanism and the ability to track reports. Facebook work with law enforcement when there is a criminal investigation - no further legislation would be needed.

    - Industry standard on reporting mechanisms and response times – Ed Vaizey held a meeting with social media companies in February which set out seven principles to form a code of practice, including a standardised response time (ideally within 24 hours). Other principles

included appeals, mediation and age verification. Ed Vaizey is pursuing this area and will be asking social media companies to sign up.

- It was suggested that a charity could act as a mediator and the repository of best practice.

- Susie Hargreaves pointed out that the IWF might be able to take action if the victim were under 18. Microsoft has been funding some research which might be of some relevance here, and SH will see if it could explore Revenge Porn sites to help us understand the scale of the problem.

- This could be looked at as part of the Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls group which sits at the Home Office.

- It was questioned whether we were behind the curve on this already – if someone is adamant about putting these images up, then new technology may help them. Is there an opportunity to use hashsets and scan for images? Any change in law needs to be flexible and as technology changes and adapts, we can revisit the law.

- In the USA, a number of states have passed legislation. The UK also has the opportunity to send a really clear message.

- Victims need better support – it was suggested that industry must see this as a cost of doing business – there is a need for funding streams to expand existing support organisations.

- It was confirmed that if this activity were criminalised, industry would use the existing notice and take down procedure.

- The Ministry of Justice have been gathering evidence to determine the scale of this issue, and have looked at what a new offence might look like.

Action Point: Ed Vaizey to continue his work with social media, towards developing a code of conduct around seven identified areas.

Action Point: Maria Miller to speak to Mike Penning separately about Government's work to tackle revenge porn.

Action Point: Mike Penning to work with MoJ and share a paper at the next Board setting out progress towards tackling revenge porn. This should cover discussions that are underway between Ed Vaizey and social media companies, and propose a common approach towards dealing with revenge porn which the industry can adopt.

Action Point: Susie Hargreaves to find out whether TalkTalk's funding to the IWF has the potential to contribute towards assistance to victims of revenge porn, and whether the Microsoft research would shed any light on this issue.

Item 3 – Net Neutrality

11. Ed Vaizey introduced the discussion. There has been some talk that the proposed regulation may hinder the work of the group, but EV didn't believe this to be the case. Net neutrality is a hugely

emotive issue, MEPs clearly support work by the Commission, but it shouldn't affect our work - it won't stop us removing images that are clearly illegal, and optional filters won't be affected.

12. We have a voluntary code in the UK because we support a definition of net neutrality which means that ISPs shouldn't block competitor services, e.g. Skype. We want to leave room for the market to innovate.

13. Comments included:
    - There are three issues:
        i. clean feeds – of small concern;
        ii. parental controls in the home – this is consensual so not a problem (unless they were default on);
        iii. public Wi-Fi – this is more worrying as it blocks legal content by default - so this could be a problem.
    - Industry wants assurance that Government is comfortable that the proposed legislation doesn't conflict with UK practices. Ed Vaizey confirmed that the Government is aware of the concerns and are talking to the Commission to ensure these concerns are front of mind and are being kept closely under review.

Item 4 - Extremism

14. The Chair welcomed Rosemary Pratt, Head of Prevent at the Home Office and asked for an update on current work to help combat and deal with increased volumes of extremist content online. Minister for Immigration and Security, James Brokenshire, was unable to attend as he was at the National Security Council.

15. The threat level in the UK was recently raised – a key factor in this is people travelling to Syria and Iraq and posing a threat on their return. It is important to prevent people thinking that it's a good idea to travel or take on extremist ideas and we need to safeguard young people from harm.

16. It is clear that the internet plays an increasingly important role in sustaining and supporting these narratives. Terrorist groups have always used the internet, but there has been a striking growth on social media. Islamic State invests a huge amount of time in high quality communication, much of which is targeted at young people – they have an identity, branding, a figurehead, a partisan following devoted to the organisation, fan art. Since 18th August, there have been over 30,000 mentions of IS on UK social media.

17. The HO aims to prevent vulnerable people accessing this material online. They have been working with industry (including those round the table), law enforcement and the public.

18. In the wake of Lee Rigby's murder last year, the PM set up the Extremism Task Force (ETF) with four key commitments around the online space:
    i. To build capabilities of community and civil society groups;
    ii. To work with internet companies to restrict access to terrorist material illegal under UK law;
    iii. To improve the process of public reporting;
    iv. To work with the internet industry to identify legal but harmful extremist content to include in their family friendly filters.

Good progress has been made on (ii) where the threshold is around glorification and inciting violence. Today's discussion concerns legal but unpleasant content.

19.   Immediately before the Executive Board, James Brokenshire met with the four ISPs to talk about the inclusion of extremist material in their family friendly filters. The Minister is hugely grateful to ISPs, and is clear there is shared responsibility here, with lots of different pieces to the jigsaw.

20.   Filtering often doesn't reach content on social media platforms. The HO is in conversation with major social media companies about 'safe mode' – have spoken to Google, Facebook etc.

21.   Recent cybersafe research showed that a third of parents are worried about their children being targeted by radical groups online. The team working on extremist content would like to learn lessons from UKCCIS about giving parents and the public advice on protecting young people to see if similar approaches can be applied to address this issue. Internet Matters already contains a link to the police public reporting tool and the HO has started to work with the education team at CEOP.

22.   Discussion points included:
   - Clarification that the four main ISPs' filters capture, to varying degrees, content which is legal but harmful. It is social media that is most worrying.

   - This work should be added to the agenda for UKCCIS. A lot of this falls to social media companies, but there is also a significant amount of 'grey' material and it's not clear where that falls.

   - The Government is tackling this through the ETF, but there is a collective sense that UKCCIS also needs to make this our business.

   - There is a link on the Government website to the CTIRU reporting tool where members of the public can report terrorist material.

   - There are certain things that network providers can do here, but ISPs can't monitor or take down stuff that they don't host.

   - This also relates to the social media work being led by Ed Vaizey.

   - Social media companies are underrepresented on the Board today – all the ISPs are present but this issue goes much wider. To discuss further, we need to make sure that the right people are in attendance.

   - Good progress on this issue has been made with ISPs, so the focus may now shift elsewhere.

Action Point: Home Office to provide a paper to the next Board summarising its work with industry around tackling extremist content on the internet, for discussion at UKCCIS. This work concerns young people's safety online therefore sits within the ambit of UKCCIS. Members to consider how UKCCIS can further support this work.

Item 5 – Public Wi-Fi

23. Anne Heal, Openreach, joined to present this item. She outlined that the Family Friendly Wi-Fi logo is up and running, with the website and the underlying systems and processes in place.

24. The Registered Digital Institute (RDI) are currently looking at business to business recruitment including speaking to retailers and getting them on board. The RDI has a target list of 100 other brands. About 20 small, niche Wi-Fi providers have asked to be accredited – this is very encouraging.

25. The RDI are learning a lot about the Wi-Fi market which is quite a mish mash between big and small companies. They are building links with strong channels and have a strong audience with schools who often offer public Wi-Fi.

26. The next stage will involve a period of consolidation – brands will be recruited, the Wi-Fi put into place, with more external communications with consumers.

27. Comments included:
    - It is worth considering other areas of concern where public Wi-Fi has a role to play e.g. revenge porn and extremism. We should find out whether public Wi-Fi could filter further.
    - It is bit too early for public recognition of this work. In the short term, retailers are keen to put the logo on their landing pages which has been working well and is quicker and easier than sticky labels, but this will also be rolled out. Anne encouraged people around the table to put the logo on their websites, and it would be helpful to include mention of the logo in any further Government announcements.

Action Point: The RDI to present progress at a future UKCCIS Board

Item 6 - AOB

28. The Chair passed on a message from Will Gardner (Childnet) that Safer Internet Day would be held on 10th February 2015 under the slogan "Lets Create a Better Internet Together" and asked that the Board engage. Everyone is invited to a briefing hosted by Childnet on 8th October.

29. Our next meeting will be on the afternoon of 4th December at the Home Office (exact time TBC). Dave Miles (FOSI) will give an update on the work of the Overblocking Working Group. If there's anything Board members would like on agenda, please let the secretariat know.

30. There will also be a discussion about the role of the board and its membership and focus going forward – if anyone has any comments, please share these with the secretariat in the next few weeks. We shouldn't assume the Board has the right format, it can work on one level but as issues and challenges change, it's worth considering whether we've got it right.

31. ISPs also noted that they had sent a letter about the next stage of the Internet Matters campaign to Edward Timpson, especially around education. They proposed to talk to the Minister separately and provide an update at the next meeting.