UK AI COUNCIL

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL

10:00 - 12:00, Tuesday 6th December

**Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy**

Virtual Meeting

Ministerial attendance:

George Freeman MP [For Item 1]	Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, BEIS
Paul Scully MP [For Item1]	Minister for Tech and the Digital Economy, DCMS

Attendees:
Council members:

Paul Clarke	Formerly Ocado
Rachel Dunscombe	NHS Digital Academy
Tabitha Goldstaub	AI Council Chair
Professor Dame Wendy Hall	UK AI Skills Champion
Dame Patricia Hodgson	Formerly Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation
Lila Ibrahim	Deepmind
Adrian Joseph	BT Group
Priya Lakhani	CENTURY Tech
Professor David Lane	Edinburgh Centre for Robotics
Professor Máire O'Neill	Queen's University Belfast
Professor Sir Mark Walport	Formerly UKRI and Government CSA
Marc Warner	Faculty

Officials:

Blake Bower	Director, Digital and Tech Policy, DCMS
Head of AI Regulation, Office for AI	
Head, Digital Regulation Strategy, DCMS	
AI Council Secretariat	

Guests:

Professor Zoubin Ghahramani [For Item 4]	Future of Compute Review,
Co-Lead [For Item 4]	Future of Compute Review, DCMS

Apologies:

Professor Chris Bishop	Microsoft Research Lab
Professor Pete Burnap	Cardiff University
Ann Cairns	Mastercard
Dr Claire Craig	The Queen's College, Oxford
Professor Nick Jennings	Loughborough University
Ottoline Leyser	Chief Executive, UKRI
Professor Sir Adrian Smith	The Alan Turing Institute
Martin Tisné	Luminate

Introduction

- The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Chris Bishop, Pete Burnap, Ann Cairns, Claire Craig, Ottoline Leyser, Adrian Smith and Martin Tisné.

Item 1: Overview of key 2023 priorities from Paul Scully MP, Minister for Tech and the Digital Economy, DCMS and George Freeman MP, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation BEIS

- The Chair formally welcomed George Freeman MP and Paul Scully MP to the meeting, and congratulated Minister Scully on his recent ministerial appointment at DCMS and Minister Freeman on his return to his ministerial role at BEIS.

- Ministers Freeman and Scully set out their priorities for the UK's AI ecosystem in 2023 and beyond, noting the UK remains a world leader in the AI sphere, and thanked the Council for its continued expert advice to the Government.

- A short discussion followed during which members posed questions on AI skills, Government procurement, Large Language Models, regulation, and AI integration throughout the wider economy.

- The Chair thanked both ministers for attending and reiterated the Council's commitment to support the Government on all aspects of AI.

Item 2: Further discussion on 2023 priorities and update on AI Council members' terms

- The Director for Digital and Tech Policy updated members on the work streams surrounding AI within Government, with focus on progress around the three pillars outlined in the AI Action Plan.

- The Director also updated members on the plans surrounding the AI White Paper. Members discussed the impact of Large Language Models on the paper.

- The Director outlined plans to extend the term of membership to June 2023. This will allow the Government to ensure the advisory body landscape remains joined up.

- Members took note.

Item 3: Update and discussion on AI Regulatory Framework

- The Head of AI Regulation at the Office of AI updated members on regulation policy developments following stakeholder and regulator feedback to the July Policy paper.

- Members welcomed the multi sector approach and reiterated the need to avoid duplication and confusion when regulating AI, and suggested the promotion of best practice sharing across the ecosystem.

- Members noted regulation must avoid inhibiting growth and innovation, and the need for legal certainty in any regulation.

- Members also raised concerns around the need for international agreements in the area of AI regulation.

Item 4: Recommendations from the Future Compute Review

- Professor Zoubin Ghahramani and the Secretariat Future of Compute review Co lead updated the members on the Future of Compute Review, outlining the review's three objectives: 1) Understanding the UK's compute needs over the next decade; 2) Identifying interventions required to ensure research and industry have internationally competitive access to compute, 3) Establishing the role of compute in delivering the Integrated Review and Science Superpower this decade

- A discussion followed during which members raised several issues to the secretariat including resilience, Large Language Models, infrastructure, investment in Digital Healthcare and Cloud interoperability.

Item 5: AOB

- The Chair concluded the meeting and thanked officials and Council members for their attendance.

AI Council Secretariat