Westminster *e*Forum policy conference:
Next steps for data protection in the UK
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 14th January 2027
*****Taking Place Online*****

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Kirkhope, Member, Communications and Digital Committee

9.05 **Next steps for data protection in the UK - implementation of recent reform and considerations for further policy development**
Owen Rowland, Deputy Director, Data Protection Policy, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 **Next steps for intermediary services - responsibilities, user control and trust**
UK GDPR compliance and legal ambiguities in data transfers | awareness and managing friction around access and transfer | legal roles, delegation, liability and proportionate verification of delegated requests | safeguards against speculative or bulk requests | duties, governance and the interests intermediaries represent | neutrality, fiduciary duties, registration and industry-led codes | individual safety, consent and power imbalances | commercialisation and employer control of workplace data | collective and individual interests | risks from coerced delegation and concentrated data holdings | sector-level trust frameworks | Smart Data, digital identity, interoperability and consumer control | competitive data-driven markets
Jack Coulson, Head, Advocacy, Big Brother Watch
Professor Elena Simperl, Director, Research, Open Data Institute; and Professor, Computer Science, King's College London
Daniel Morgan, Head, Policy, Yapily
Senior representative, business
Questions and comments from the floor

10.15 **International data flows - transfer mechanisms, adequacy, interoperability and security**
Senior representative, international
Questions and comments from the floor

10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Kirkhope, Member, Communications and Digital Committee

10.45 Break

10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian

11.00 **Data-intensive technologies - governance, compliance and the developing data protection framework**
Michael Birtwistle, Associate Director, Data and AI Law and Policy, Ada Lovelace Institute
Questions and comments from the floor

11.25 **Data protection and AI - legal priorities and next steps**
Katie Hewson, Partner and Head of Data Protection, Stephenson Harwood

11.35 **'AI risk-tiering from rejection to overreliance'**
Michael Sturrock, Director, Policy and Public Affairs, Data and Marketing Association

11.45 **AI and technological adoption - accountability, risk and implications in practice**
application of data protection law to AI and data-intensive technologies | revised rules on significant solely automated decisions, human involvement and ways to challenge decisions | special-category data protections and the statutory AI and automated decision making code | compliance and legal uncertainty around AI adoption | data quality, accuracy and downstream implications | training data access and provenance | transparency and rights in complex data environments | roles, risk and responsibilities across data-intensive supply chains | governance across organisations | synthetic data and privacy-enhancing technologies | accountability, assurance and oversight for autonomous and agentic AI | effectiveness of data-protection frameworks
Ali Mustoe-Playfair, Director, Agentic Operations, ANS Group
Senior representative, innovation
Senior representative, business
Senior representative, research

12.05 Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 **Next steps for data protection reform - rights, enforcement and guidance**
Tom Reynolds, Director, Economic Analysis, Information Commission
Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 **Chair's and Westminster *e*Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Thomas Howard, Westminster *e*Forum