

Protecting children online: content regulation, age verification and latest thinking on industry responsibility 10th December 2019

CONDITIONS FOR USE OF TRANSCRIPTS:

This document is intended to provide a timely reference for interested parties who are unable to attend the event to which it refers. Some portions are based on transcripts of proceedings and others consist of text submitted by speakers or authors, and are clearly marked as such. As such, <u>apart from where it is indicated that the text was supplied by the speaker</u>, it has not been possible for the transcript to be checked by speakers and so this portion of the document does not represent a formal record of proceedings. Despite best endeavours by Westminster *e*Forum Projects and its suppliers to ensure accuracy, text based on transcription may contain errors which could alter the intended meaning of any portion of the reported content. Anyone who intends to publicly use or refer to any text based on the transcript should make clear that speakers have not had the opportunity for any corrections, or check first with the speaker in question. If in doubt please contact the forum first.

Contents

About this Publication	3
Agenda	4
<u>Session Chair's opening remarks</u> Ann Coffey, former Member of Parliament and Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Runaway and Missing Children and Adults <i>(transcript)</i>	6
Protecting children online - key issues and emerging trends Professor Sonia Livingstone, Professor of Social Psychology, Department of Media and Communications, London School of Economics and Political Science (transcript)	7
Where next for protecting children online - assessing steps taken so far and priorities for industry	
Will Gardner, Chief Executive Officer, Childnet International and Director, UK Safer Internet Centre (transcript)	11
Claire Levens, Policy Director, Internet Matters (transcript)	13
Alex Towers, Director of Policy and Public Affairs, BT and Board Member, techUK (transcript)	16
Questions and comments from the floor with Professor Sonia Livingstone , Professor of Social Psychology, Department of Media and Communications, London School of Economics and Political Science (<i>transcript</i>)	20
Latest thinking on reducing harmful content online - content regulation, industry responsibility and providing	
 <u>children and families with the support to make informed choices</u> Professor Lorna Woods, Professor, School of Law, University of Essex (transcript) Ben Bradley, Senior Policy Manager, Digital Strategy, techUK (transcript) Claire O'Meara, Head of Private Sector Policy and Advocacy, Unicef UK (transcript) Dr Bernadka Dubicka, Chair, Child and Adolescent Faculty, Royal College of Psychiatrists (transcript) Questions and comments from the floor (transcript) 	26 28 30 32 35
<u>Session Chair's closing remarks</u> Ann Coffey, former Member of Parliament and Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Runaway and Missing Children and Adults <i>(transcript)</i>	44
<u>Session Chair's opening remarks</u> Lord Black of Brentwood, Deputy Chairman, Telegraph Media Group <i>(transcript)</i>	45
Assessing legal and regulatory requirements mandating age-verification for the protection of minors	
Paul Herbert, Partner, Goodman Derrick (transcript)	46
<u>Regulating access to harmful content - collection and use of data, the practicalities of age verification, the</u> impact on innovation and competition in digital markets	
Sophie Linington, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Parent Zone (transcript)	49
lain Corby, Executive Director, The Age Verification Providers Association (transcript)	51
Matthew Lesh, Head of Research, Adam Smith Institute (transcript)	53
Dom Hallas, Executive Director, The Coalition for a Digital Economy (Coadec) (transcript)	56
Questions and comments from the floor with Paul Herbert , Partner, Goodman Derrick (<i>transcript</i>)	58
Session Chair's and Westminster <i>e</i> Forum closing remarks Lord Black of Brentwood, Deputy Chairman, Telegraph Media Group (<i>transcript</i>)	67
Douglas Henderson, Senior Researcher, Westminster <i>e</i> Forum (<i>transcript</i>)	68
<u>Comments</u> <u>Matt Tindall</u> , Age-Verification Officer, British Board of Film Classification	69
List of Delegates Registered for Seminar	70
Contributor Biographies	75
About the Core Sponsors of the Westminster eForum	78
Please he advised that sneakers' PowerPoint presentations are included within the transcript itself just heneath the relevant sneaker's text. Pl	ease note

Please be advised that speakers' PowerPoint presentations are included within the transcript itself, just beneath the relevant speaker's text. Please note that not all speakers are able to grant permission for us to include their slides.

About this Publication

This publication reflects proceedings at the Westminster *e*Forum Policy conference: Protecting children online: content regulation, age verification and latest thinking on industry responsibility held on 10th December 2019. The views expressed in the articles are those of the named authors, not those of the Forum or the sponsors, apart from their own articles.

Although Westminster *e*Forum is grateful to all sponsors for the funding on which we depend, participation in events and publications is never conditional on being a sponsor. As well as funding ongoing operations, sponsorship enables the Forum to distribute complimentary copies of publications, and offer complimentary tickets for events, to Government ministers, parliamentarians and officials most involved in policy.

This publication is copyright. Its copying, in whole or in part, is not permitted without the prior written consent of the publishers. However, extracts of the text may be reproduced for academic or review purposes, subject to the conditions of use outlined in the previous page, providing they are accurate, are not used in a misleading context and the author, their organisation and the Westminster *e*Forum are acknowledged. We would also appreciate being informed.

Westminster eForum

UK Headquarters 4 Bracknell Beeches Old Bracknell Lane West Bracknell Berkshire RG12 7BW

T: 01344 864796 F: 01344 420121 publications@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk

Directors Peter van Gelder Chris Whitehouse