



Digital Regulation Cooperation Forum

Call for Input - Digital Regulation Cooperation Forum workplan 2025/26

Publication date: 1 October 2024

Response deadline: 8 November 2024

Overview

The DRCF brings together four UK regulators (CMA, Ofcom, ICO and the FCA). We have the goal of ensuring the coordination of digital regulation between our members so that we can: protect and empower people online, support regulator effectiveness, and unlock digital innovation and economic growth through good practice.

In this Call for Input (CfI) we are seeking views on where the DRCF can drive greater regulatory cooperation and work together for the benefit of people and businesses online. This cooperation can span all four DRCF members, or only involve some members.

Who should respond

We invite views from people and organisations who have an interest in or interact with digital regulation and/or technologies, including but not limited to AI, digital identity, online safety and data protection.

In particular, we would like views on:

- 1. Which digital policy interactions or technologies would you like the DRCF to consider as it develops its workplan for 2025/26? Why are these important?**
- 2. What specific joint action would you like to see? What shared guidance, service or other outputs would you find useful?**

Please outline areas that cover at least two of the DRCF Member remits.

This includes businesses using technologies such as AI and developers who provide digital services across sectors. We also welcome responses from academia, consumer groups, and charities working in digital policy, particularly those representing communities that may experience vulnerability.

Background

There are five elements to the DRCF's three-year vision:

- Protecting and empowering people online
- Unlocking digital innovation and economic growth
- Supporting regulator effectiveness
- Leading domestic and international discussions
- Anticipating future developments

To deliver on that vision, we are currently implementing our plan of work for 2024/25, which covers topics such as:

Providing informal advice to innovators through our AI and Digital Hub.

Artificial intelligence: developing our understanding of consumer use and industry

adoption, auditing/assurance, benefits and harms.

Conducting horizon scanning and research flagging potential regulatory risks and opportunities of emerging technologies such as digital identity, digital assets and synthetic media.

Developing our internal capabilities through joint learning and development and the use of AI in supervisory activities.

Ensuring coherence between regulatory frameworks, such as bilateral work between regulators on data protection and online safety, competition and data protection and illegal online financial promotions.

We are on track to deliver the commitments set out in this workplan, and we may continue further work in these areas in 2025/26.

Our current work results from responses to our previous calls for input that aligned with our aims and objectives, as well as extensive consultations within DRCF member regulators. We are now keen to obtain fresh

views on the most beneficial ways for us to implement our vision.

Alongside the views expressed in this round of input, we will reconsider the areas raised in previous years such as smart data, interoperability and critical third parties (see our Call for Input response for further detail).

Why your views matter

We want to make sure our work continues to have a meaningful impact for businesses and users of digital services.

Your responses to this Cfl will help us to develop our workplan for 2025/26 and inform our longer-term vision of how AI and digital technology is used in the future.

This year, we are publishing our Cfl earlier. By doing this, we can ensure that your views are fed into internal prioritisation conversations at their inception, providing utmost impact on our forthcoming work.

Our prioritisation process

We greatly appreciate all responses to this Cfl. Where suggestions are not taken forward immediately, they will be kept on record and fed into our future thinking beyond next year's workplan.

In considering key areas of work to take forward in 2025/26, the DRCF will use the following criteria:

Strategic significance: Does the proposed joint work align with the aims and objectives of the DRCF and its three-year vision, as well as the aims and objectives of its member regulators?

Impact: Would the proposed joint work achieve a demonstrable positive impact, and how significant would this be? Is the DRCF best placed to act?

Resources: How much resource would be required to complete this work, and achieve the desired impact? Do the DRCF and its member regulators have sufficient resources to do so?

Risk: What risks are associated with this joint regulatory initiative and how significant are these? Are there risks of inaction?

Each DRCF member regulator consults separately on its own plan of work in accordance with its own respective legal obligations. The responses to this Cfl should not be treated as responses to those consultations.

How to respond

The Cfl closes at **11:59pm on Friday 8 November 2024**. Please send your responses to drcf@ofcom.org.uk. We also welcome any

other questions about our work. Read [our DRCF Workplan for 2024/25](#) and [our response to last year's call for input](#).

We do not expect to publish submissions under this Call for Input alongside the publication of our Workplan 2025/26. However, we may incorporate responses into the Workplan, anonymising these or otherwise ensuring that they cannot be attributed to individual respondents. If your response contains any information that you regard as sensitive and would not wish to be published, please advise which information you wish to keep confidential and explain why you regard it to be confidential.

The DRCF is not a standalone legal entity, and, for the avoidance of doubt, information submitted in response to this CfI should be treated as information submitted to each DRCF member regulator (CMA, Ofcom, ICO and FCA).

To note, any information members of the DRCF receive as part of this consultation may be subject to a freedom of information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The DRCF member will endeavour to contact you if it is asked to disclose information you have indicated as confidential and not suitable for publication, so that it can assess how it responds to the request.

For more information about how we handle personal data please see the [DRCF Privacy Policy](#).