

Privacy and Consumer Advisory Group (PCAG)
% Verify Identity Assurance Team
Government Digital Service
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6NH

The Rt Hon M Hancock MP
Minister for the Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
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6 June 2016

Dear Mr. Hancock,

The Privacy and Consumer Advisory Group (PCAG) was pleased to meet you in December last year. We welcome your desire and commitment to ensure that the Government's handling of information will inspire the trust and confidence of UK citizens – including some of the most vulnerable in our society, who have most to fear from inappropriate access to and use of their sensitive personal information.

Following that meeting and our subsequent work in reviewing numerous initiatives in the public sector, PCAG would like to discuss our concerns with two current initiatives:

- provisions in the Investigatory Powers Bill currently before Parliament
- proposals on the use and sharing of data in connection with the forthcoming Digital Economy Bill, and following on from the recent "Better use of data" consultation

We are raising these issues in order to enable us to fulfill our obligations – namely, to provide the UK Government with independent expert review, analysis, guidance and feedback on all personal data and privacy-impacting initiatives by all departments, agencies and other public sector bodies.

We would welcome a meeting in order to highlight our concerns, and to seek clarity and assurance with regards to aspects of both of these initiatives.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Professor Jerry Fishenden (Co-Chair) and Dr Edgar Whitley (Co-Chair)
On behalf of the Privacy and Consumer Advisory Group (PCAG)