Parliament & Internet

Agenda for the 2007 Parliament and the Internet Conference

http://www.parliamentandinternet.org.uk

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09.00	Registration and coffee in the Boothroyd Room of Portcullis House
09.15	Introduction from Derek Wyatt MP and John Robertson MP, Joint Chairs of apComms
09.30	Speech by Alex Payne, UK Marketing Director, Online Services Group, Microsoft
10.00	Morning workshops - A, B, C (details below)
10.50	Coffee break
11.15	Ministerial speech from the Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP, Minister for Competitiveness and a speech from William Beer, European Strategy Director at Symantec
12:15	Plenary Session: Feedback reports from morning workshops
12.45	Networking lunch
13:25	Parliamentary Great Lecture by Nicholas Negroponte, founder and chairman of the One Laptop per Child non-profit association
14:25	Coffee break
14:40	Afternoon workshops - D, E, F (details below)
15:30	Speech by Philip Graf, Deputy Chairman of Ofcom and Q+A session
16:00	Plenary session: Feedback reports from afternoon workshops
16:35	Drinks reception in Strangers Dining Room. Speech by Commander Sue Wilkinson, Head of Child Abuse Investigation and Economic and Specialist Crime, Metropolitan Police
18.00	End

Workshop A

The impact of Internet social networking on politics, organised by the Parliamentary Information Technology Committee, PITCOM www.pitcom.org.uk

Social networking is one of the most exciting phenomena to hit the hi-tech scene in recent years. Its increased popularity has meant that it has become a must in political campaigning and outreach.

This session will be led by Andrew Miller MP, Chair of PITCOM. Joanna Shields, President of Bebo International, will provide an overview of how social networking has been used around the world by politicians and citizens looking to get their messages out - messages which are increasingly being targeted at the younger generation. Shields will also look at the challenges this approach presents and how she foresees it evolving in the future.

The session is designed for an open discussion on the theme of Social Networking and Politics: Loving Marriage or Bitter Divorce? The session will aim to draw conclusions about whether social networking and politics is destined to be together forever or if the two will find that they are destined for a future spent apart

Workshop B

The challenge of next generation broadband, organised by the Broadband Stakeholder Group www.broadbanduk.org

Pipe dreams? – The challenge of next generation broadband

Over the last 5 years broadband has had a huge impact on the daily lives of UK citizens, changing the way they communicate, work and interact with government. Great strides have been made in making broadband widely available and the UK leads the G7 in terms of broadband coverage. However, growing demand for bandwidth and the global shift towards next generation broadband raises new challenges for the UK.

While new ultra high-speed services may well be deployed in some urban areas, it is less likely that the market will support their deployment in rural areas. This means that broadband speeds will increase for some, but not everyone and there will be significant variations in services available to citizens depending upon where they live. The risk of the digital divide widening again is real.

The Broadband Stakeholder Group (BSG), the government's advisory group on broadband, recently published a report which argues that steps need to be taken now to create the right conditions in the UK to enable efficient investment in the next generation of broadband services and ensure their timely and ubiquitous availability for the benefit of UK citizens, businesses and public sector.

Come along to the BSG workshop to find out how next generation broadband will impact nationally, in terms of UK competitiveness, and locally, in terms of the services available to your constituents.

Workshop agenda

Introduction & welcome
Chair – Kip Meek, Chairman, Broadband Stakeholder Group

The next generation broadband challenge
What does it mean at national and local level?
Richard Allan, Government Relations Director, Cisco

What action is being taken?

From Government – Andy Carter, ICT Infrastructure & Applications Policy, Department of Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform
From Ofcom – Dougal Scott, Director of Policy Development, Ofcom
From industry – Kip Meek, Chair, Broadband Stakeholder Group

Q&A and discussion with audience

Workshop C

The issue of 'bad' Internet traffic and P2P, organised by the Internet Services Providers' Association (ISPA UK) www.ispa.org.uk

Dealing with Internet content and P2P - Who should be making the decisions?

The Internet is unrivalled as an educational and informative resource for adults and children throughout the world. Yet, inevitably, it is so often the negative aspects of the Internet that dominate the headlines and the focus of industry. Criticisms of Internet Service Providers focus on the myth that they are the 'gatekeepers of the Internet', and thereby somehow guilty of defending 'bad' Internet traffic. The reality of the situation is very different with ISPs consistent about the removal or blocking of illegal material, evident in the success of the Internet Watch Foundation.

Too often ISPs are admonished for refusing to block or remove content, or for not reprimanding users based on claims that are not supported by conclusive evidence. The illegality of individual cases of harmful or inappropriate content, peer-to-peer file sharing or defamation should not be judged by ISPs. This workshop will investigate the balance between an ISP's liability and its obligation to the user in the aftermath of the Gowers' Review on Intellectual Property and will consider the importance of ISPs never becoming 'Judge and Jury'.

Panellists:

- Mark Gracey, Content and Regulation Manager, THUS (Chair)
- Emma Ascroft, Head of Public & Social Policy, Yahoo!
- Simon Persoff - Director of Regulatory Affairs, Orange
- Thomas Walker - Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (invited)

Workshop D

The fostering and preserving consumer, citizen and business confidence in the on-line world organised by the European Information Society Group, EURIM www.eurim.org

The question to be tackled by the Eurim session is: *"How can we reconcile the freedom of the internet with the need for everyone to have confidence that the Internet is a safe, secure and reliable place to work and play?"*

The question will be explored as follows:

- Rt Hon Alun Michael MP will present proposals on how to create a partnership approach to creating safety and security online.
- Commander Sue Wilkinson will respond for ACPO and the Metropolitan Police, and explain the complementary work of the proposed e-crime unit.
- Prof Michael Levi, the leading UK expert on white-collar crime, will explain the links between efforts to tackle fraud and the challenge of cybercrime.
- Charles Cox of EDS will give an industry response to the challenges of e-crime and good governance
- Emily Taylor of Nominet will set our ideas into an international context.

Confidence in the safety and security of online transactions is now essential to business and increasingly important to the general public.

No longer can we "just leave it to the techies" or pretend that there are no problems - but the speed of change makes the timescale of traditional legislation and governance unrealistic.

So we will discuss how to create crime reduction partnerships for the on-line world, covering prevention, reporting, investigation, awareness and education – and their relevance at local, national and international level.

Workshop E

The regulation of premium rate services on the Internet (to be organised by the All Party Parliamentary Communications Group - apComms) www.apcomms.org.uk

2007 has been a difficult year for all those involved in the premium rate telecommunication industry. Public confidence in TV competitions has hit an all time low as respected shows such as *Richard & Judy* and *Blue Peter* have had their reputations attacked for operating phone in competitions with insufficient transparency.

This session will seek to consider:

- The extent to which the recent revisions to the 2005 Gambling Act have helped to protect consumers and improve legal clarity for the industry

- The steps being taken by the premium rate regulator ICSTIS/Phonepayplus and the industry itself to regain public trust in premium rate telecommunication services

- The longer term challenges the industry will need to address if it is to be seen to be offering consumers value for money

Panellists:

- George Kidd, Director of PhonePayPlus / ICSTIS
- Stephen Locke, Board Member of PhonePayPlus / ICSTIS, the National Consumer Council and the Independent Mobile Classification Body
- Barry Houlihan, CEO of MIG

Workshop F

The future of voice over IP services, organised by the Internet Telephony Services Providers' Association, ITSPA www.itspa.org.uk
Broadband telephony & 999 access - Ensuring Public Safety

The ability for consumers to dial the emergency services is one of the most fundamental public safety offerings but with most households now owning a BT line and several mobile phones, should new broadband telephony providers still be expected to offer 999 access? Should computer based telephony services such as Skype be treated any differently to VoIP providers that offer BT line replacement services? The workshop will discuss consumer awareness concerns about telephony over broadband services, the difficulties in tracing VoIP calls for the emergency services and the ways the industry are attempting to achieve these various solutions.

Workshop Agenda

1) Introduction & Welcome from the chair Lord Errol

2) 999 access - A necessity for the consumer?

3) Public Safety - The challenges for the law enforcement agencies

4) VoIP traceability - The challenges the industry faces.

Panellists:

- Lord Errol - Chair
- Charles Miller, Policy Advisor - Home Office (Covert Investigation Policy Team)
- Ofcom Representative - TBC
- Eli Katz - ITSPA Chair