

Online Safety Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Clause 18

LORD HOPE OF CRAIGHEAD

Page 21, line 20, at end insert –

“references to freedom of expression are to the freedom to impart ideas, opinions or information (referred to in Article 10(1) of the Convention as it has effect for the purposes of the Human Rights Act 1998) by means of speech, writing or images (including in electronic form);”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to provide a definition of the phrase "freedom of expression" for the purposes of this clause: see the definition that was inserted by a Government amendment into Clause 1 of the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill, in inserted section A1 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017.

Clause 94

LORD CLEMENT-JONES

Page 84, line 29, at end insert “or a regulator or self-regulatory body”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment expands the definition of "skilled person" to include a regulator or self-regulatory body.

After Clause 103

LORD CLEMENT-JONES

Insert the following new Clause –

“Co-operation and disclosure of information: UK regulators

- (1) OFCOM may co-operate with a regulator established by statute or a recognised self-regulatory body in the United Kingdom, including by disclosing online safety information to that regulator, for the purposes of –

After Clause 103 - continued

- (a) tackling harm arising from illegal content, primary priority content harmful to children, priority content harmful to children, or priority content that is harmful to adults, or
 - (b) criminal investigations or proceedings relating to a matter to which the regulator's functions relate.
- (2) Where information is disclosed to a person in reliance of subsection (1), the person may not –
- (a) use the information for a purpose other than the purpose for which it was disclosed, or
 - (b) further disclose the information, except with OFCOM's consent (which may be general or specific) or in accordance with an order of a court or tribunal.
- (3) A disclosure of information under subsection (1) does not breach –
- (a) any obligation of confidence owed by the person making the disclosure, or
 - (b) any other restriction on the disclosure of information.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new Clause seeks to enable cooperation between relevant domestic regulators, similar to the power in Clause 103 in relation to overseas regulators.

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14 March 2023
