



Sources	gov.uk	Date	July 2021		
Potential scale of impact	★★★★★	Certainty of outcome	★★★☆☆	Impact horizon	
				H1	H2
					H3

UK Government set out its [vision for digital regulation in June 2021](#). It is *to drive prosperity through our regulation of digital technologies, while minimising harms to the economy, security and society*.

Achieving this vision requires a new approach to regulation that

- Actively promotes innovation: Digital technologies and their applications drive innovation across every part of the UK economy, and the way government regulates them should encourage this. The government will seek to remove unnecessary regulations and burdens where possible. Where regulation is needed, it will be designed to minimise unnecessary burdens on businesses.
- Achieves forward-looking and coherent outcomes: Previously distinct regulatory regimes may become increasingly interconnected - for example in content, competition and data protection. As the landscape develops quickly, policymakers will need to ensure that new regulation minimises contradictions, undue burdens, or overlaps and gaps with existing frameworks. Interventions should address underlying drivers of harm rather than symptoms and should be designed with a clear understanding of the links to wider regulatory regimes. Collaborating with businesses and other regulators is key.
- Exploits opportunities and addresses challenges in the international arena: Digital technologies present global solutions and global problems in a way rarely seen in other sectors. Policymakers should build in international considerations from the start, taking account of existing international obligations, likely future agreements, and the impact of regulations and standards developed by other nations. This includes consideration of how digital technical standards can support domestic rulemaking as a complement or alternative to regulation, and how they can facilitate international interoperability.

Government aims to embed these principles into cross-government policy making processes so it can respond with agility to emerging issues. While this framework will sit above a range of digital regulation policies, government will also take a more detailed and deeper look at regulatory approaches on specific technologies as well as the economy as a whole - for example via the upcoming AI Strategy and the Regulatory Horizons Council.

