

techUK Data Centres Council (UK Council of Data Centre Operators) Terms of Reference

October 2015

Purpose

The Data Centres Council provides strategic direction for all techUK activities relating to data centres.

Responsibilities

The Council:

- Steers the Data Centres Group work programme and agrees priorities for action
- Defines the policy response required for a given issue
- Agrees the form that communications and policy outputs should take
- Develops and disseminates industry white papers and other content
- Acts as a trusted sounding board for government seeking input on relevant issues
- Works directly with external stakeholders on specific industry issues
- Interacts with other techUK groups focusing on related topics
- Provides an authoritative and recognised voice for the industry
- Develops a speaker led programme for the Data Centres Group to address industry issues

The Council aims to be transparent: meeting agendas and minutes are available to all data centre group members. Council meetings operate under The Chatham House Rule when necessary.

Membership

The Council comprises 20 members, plus secretariat, drawn from techUK's Data Centres Group. Membership is open to all within the Data Centres Group. Members of the Council must be employed by a body that is a member of TechUK and should ideally be of senior manager status or above. The Council is explicitly Operator-led and 15 of the 20 seats will always be reserved for operators. Within that constraint, techUK will endeavour to ensure that the Council represents the full range of member interests relating to data centres.

Membership, including the Chair and Vice Chair, runs for two years. Individuals can subsequently be re-elected on an annual basis. Members are nominated via an open call to the Data Centres Group from techUK, followed by a vote if necessary. Each company may only have one seat on the Council. Membership is dependent on continuing engagement and will be revoked in cases of sustained non-attendance.

Meetings

The Council will meet four or five times a year. Sub groups formed to address specific issues will meet on an ad-hoc basis as required. Where decisions require a vote, each member has one vote but in the case of a hung vote, the Chairman may exercise an additional casting vote. A minimum of six members is required for a meeting to be deemed quorate.

Secretariat

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