

Minutes

TSA Supply Chain Sub-Group

- Tuesday 16 July 2024
- Online

The meeting covered the following points and comments:

- Recap of what we are trying to achieve: industry-led endeavour to publish a discussion paper of the multiple issues facing the sector as compliance with the TSA continues. We have gathered approximately 60 issues so far. These are informed by both providers (PECN/PECS) and vendors.
- Our intended audience is our stakeholders (Ofcom, DSIT and NCSC). Exact format and issues taken to each/all is to be determined.
- The Sub-Group discussed the proposed categorisation (Definitions; Implementation Guidance; General; and Out-of-Scope).
- Members discussed that the vast majority of the issues identified relate to Testing
- For Definitions: 1-3 will be worked on by members – **ACTION**
- Definitions 4 (Incident Reporting Obligations - M10.11/M10.12/M10.13 (39, 40, 44)) the paper can set out how defining these may not be so helpful for providers, but it's something that vendors would like.
- Some of the "Definitions" could also evolve and track across to Implementation Guidance.
- It was decided that the majority of issues raised relating to Testing and Assurance will be grouped together and presented in the discussion paper, to demonstrate the scale of the challenge facing providers and their supply chains.
- **ACTION**: techUK to do the initial grouping and share with the Sub-Group.
- Helpful if we were also to present some proposed solutions, when engaging our stakeholders.
- Many of the issues raised are now being addressed by individual providers in their next S135 requests, so our work will mainly be of benefit to smaller providers.
- To make it less painful for all, it would be most helpful if there was a shared testing facility that all could benefit from.
- Similarly, we need more guidance from NCSC on issues like Software Bill of Materials.
- Members also discussed the role the UK Telecoms Lab could play – and how that could develop (providers to pay? Vendors? – TBC!)
- Other issues the Sub-Group can explore further:
 - Sharing provider evidence with other providers
 - Working with hyperscalers and public use of cloud

Next steps:

- Definitions assigned to members of the Group for inclusion in the discussion paper
- techUK to share initial grouping for feedback

Attendees

Company Name
BT Group
Cisco
CityFibre
Ericsson
Fortinet
MBNL
NCC Group
Platform X Communications
Sky
techUK
Three
Virgin Media O2
Vodafone