19th May 2025

The Rt Hon Peter Kyle MP Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Department for Science Innovation and Technology 100 Parliament Street London SW1A 2BQ

CC: Sir Chris Bryant MP, Minister of State for Data Protection and Telecoms and Minister of State for Creative Industries, Arts and Tourism

Dear Secretary of State,

I wanted to write to reiterate techUK and our members' support for the Data (Use and Access) Bill as it nears passage, and to restate our concerns about ongoing attempts to pass amendments on AI and Copyright, including those passed last night in the House of Lords.

To maintain the UK's position as a global technology leader and realise the benefits AI can bring to the economy, a balance needs to be struck to ensure any changes to the UK's copyright framework do not inadvertently inhibit innovation. As techUK has detailed in our consultation response, we are supportive of the opt-out mechanism, believing it strikes the fairest balance and most workable solution for both the creative and the tech sectors.

Your Department is running a simultaneous consultation on the topic for which we understand responses are currently being analysed. However, the addition of amendments around transparency and copyright circumvent this process that should underpin technical policy developments. Previous versions of these amendments have marked a significant departure from both UK copyright law and global copyright norms. TechUK, therefore, encourages the Government to continue resisting these proposed changes to ensure that any amendments to the UK copyright regime are properly considered and scrutinised to take into account the needs of the whole UK economy.

More broadly, we remain concerned about ongoing attempts to pursue premature legislative changes in this area – rather than working towards a balanced and sustainable framework – by the interests of a single sector risks, which risks undermining the competitiveness of the UK economy. techUK remains committed to supporting your Government in considering what such changes might look like, once the DU Bill completes its passage in Parliament. If we can assist with that in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team.

Kind regards,

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Antony Walker Deputy CEO, techUK