

Minutes

TSA Supply Chain Sub-Group

- > Monday 15 April 2024
- > 15:00-16:05
- > Hybrid – in person (techUK) and online (MS Teams)
- > Held under **TLP:Amber**

Welcome and Introductions:

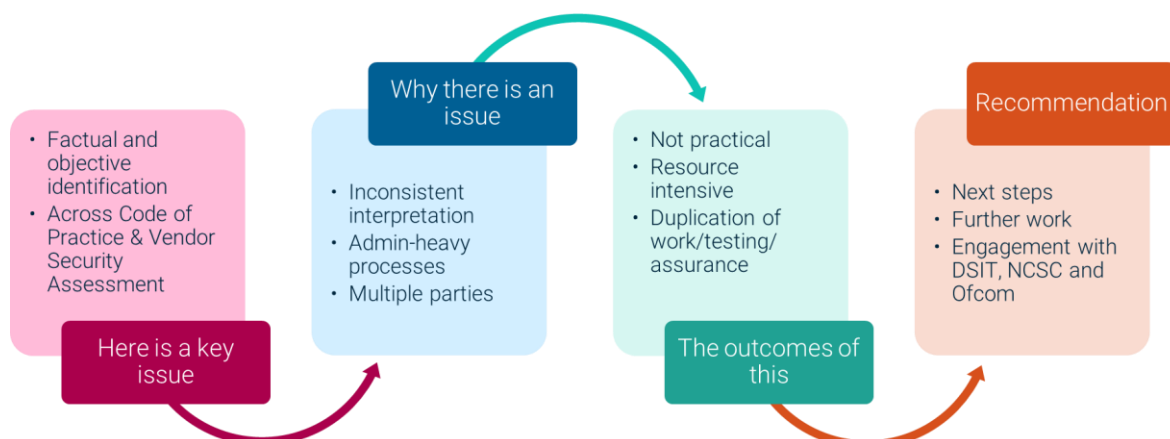
Sophie Greaves (SG) welcomed attendees, ran through housekeeping and the agenda. Members of the Sub-Group introduced themselves. Apologies were noted.

Recap of last meeting and agreement of Terms of Reference

SG provided an overview of the Sub-Group meeting that was held at techUK on Friday 22 March, including a discussion recap, proposed next steps and ways of working. The Terms of Reference document was agreed.

Proposal

SG presented a proposed structure / framework for how the discussion paper addresses key issues and solutions:



Members discussed whether to split out the Code of Practice and VSA and address them separately, and how to view them both (three ways by an operator: internal lens, collective lens (Ofcom objectives) and supplier lens).

Question posed whether a problem statement had been determined, and if not, that this should be included first – to demonstrate how the issues flow from that. We need to be clear that the TSA is at risk of failure. We need to show what good looks like.

It was suggested that we address three types of issue: those that are general, specific issues, and then issues that are to be challenged as unworkable.

Testing – for example – is across both the TSA Code and VSA.

Members also discussed whether the discussion paper should address developments in other markets, specifically the EU Cyber Resilience Act and US Software Bill of Materials (SBOM). It was determined that these should be mentioned, but not discussed in huge detail.

The key thing to note is that the TSA is a new approach – there is not precedent or similar endeavour (not even NESAS in GSMA). The EU CRA, for example, is still being formulated and agreed.

Many of the issues/challenges identified tie into vendor assurance and testing – There are elements where vendors need to collaborate on problem resolution, such as incident reporting and this is particularly challenging to meet in terms of timescales. Could timescales be something we challenge? Consequences was flagged as well, in terms of the relationship between operator and vendor.

A member raised the question of how we get across our shared experiences and the variation that has arisen – this could be modelled for DSIT to understand, specifically around a table at a workshop.

It was determined that the discussion paper could be presented to civil servants in this way.

Actions were agreed:

- 1. techUK to build collaborative space and spreadsheet for members to list key issues.**
- 2. All members list key issues: whether it applies to CoP or VSA, outcomes, solutions.**
- 3. Vodafone and Cisco to work on problem statement.**
- 4. Fortinet and Palo Alto Networks to explore shared workspace option.**
- 5. Next meeting: Wednesday 22 May at 15:00.**

Attendees

BT Group
Cisco
Fortinet
NCC Group
Nokia
Palo Alto Networks
PlatformX Communications

Sky
TalkTalk
techUK
Three UK
Virgin Media O2
VMware by Broadcom
Vodafone