

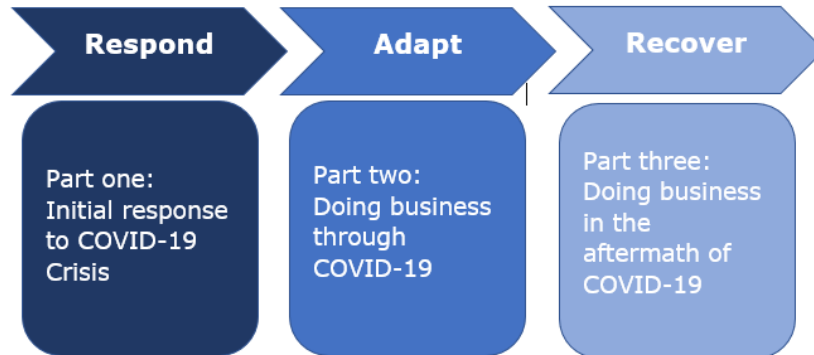
Data Centres and COVID-19

What are we doing?



techuk.org | [@techUK](https://twitter.com/techUK) | [#techUK](https://hashtechUK)

January 2021



What does our data centre programme do?

techUK provides a collective voice for UK data centre operators, representing the sector on matters of public policy, reputation and compliance. In summary we:

1. Change things (we negotiated a CCA for data centres, negotiated the addition of data centres (data infrastructure) to the Key Workers list).
2. Mitigate things we can't change – e.g. simplifying compliance requirements.
3. Explain and inform: demystifying data centres for external stakeholders and demystifying policy for operators.
4. Develop communities of interest to share best practice and inform our collective voice.

What have we done in response to COVID-19?

Respond

**Established effective crisis communications with govt.
Helped keep digital infrastructure up and running**

- Advocated successfully for data centres to be added to critical workers list
- Advocated successfully for data centre construction activity to be protected
- Advocated successfully for quarantine exemption for data centres
- Advocated successfully for priority lateral flow testing for sector workers
- Worked intensively with DCMS to stand up a team to focus on data resilience
- Acted as principal conduit for information exchange between DCMS and the sector

Adapt

**Established a stakeholder communication hub
Collated sector data and information for govt
Provided guidance, updates and best practice to sector**

- Collated and published information on footfall, transport, CNI designations, PPE, precautions and decontamination measures
- Collated and shared information with DCMS on construction projects, critical worker definitions, sector business models and more...
- Developed explanatory material on risk timeline, interdependencies, operator-customer relationships, service delivery landscape and more...
- Shared updates and clarifications from DCMS to the sector on key worker movement, construction, testing, PPE and policy developments
- Developed a library of COVID-19 resources for data centres so share knowledge and best practice between operators on precautions, recovery, mental health, PPE etc.
- Provided bespoke support to individual operators

Recover

Leveraging existing network to facilitate recovery
Helping govt review sector criticality and resilience
Working with govt to identify support measures

- Triangulating operator-supplier-government dialogue on COVID-19 supply issues
- Working closely with government on a reappraisal of the role of data centres
- Identifying support measures needed for future competitiveness of sector
- Reviewing incident data and exploring risk scenarios in light of COVID-19
- Working to prioritise and facilitate Asymptomatic Lateral Flow testing for DC workers

Useful Resources

Data Centre Programme Overviews: See annual overviews in our [Resources Directory](#)

For COVID-19 information relevant to data centres see the COVID-19 section of our Directory: <https://www.techuk.org/data-centres-programme/data-centres-resource-index.html>

Contacts



Emma Fryer
 Associate Director, techUK
 Tel: 01609 772 137
 Mob: 07595 410 653
emma.fryer@techuk.org



Lucas Banach
 Programme Assistant
 Tel: 020 7331 2006
Lucas.banach@techuk.org

About techUK: techUK is the UK's leading technology membership organisation, with more than 850 members spread across the UK. We are a network that enables our members to learn from each other and grow in a way which contributes to the country both socially and economically. www.techuk.org