

November 2022

#### Purpose and Function

The Data Centres Council is a decision-making body that provides strategic direction for all techUK activities relating to data centres. The Council:

- Steers the Data Centres Group work programme and agrees priorities for action
- Defines the response and level of activity required for each topic or 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

#### Membership

The Council comprises 20 members, plus secretariat, drawn from techUK's 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 at least 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.

Because of the technical nature of the discussions and the longevity of the policy dialogue, membership is operated on a rolling basis rather than by fixed term to ensure continuity. Vacancies arise at regular intervals and there is a formal application process. Potential applicants need not wait for a vacancy before registering their interest. Each company may only have one seat (for voting purposes) on the Council, although they may toggle their seat between the primary representative and an alternate. Toggling broadens the technical reach of the Council and provides greater flexibility for members. Membership is dependent on continuing engagement and will be revoked in cases of sustained non-attendance.

#### Meetings

The Council meets five times a year. Subgroups 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. Discussion is transparent: meeting agendas and minutes are available to all data centre group members. Council meetings operate under The Chatham House Rule when necessary.

#### Contacts



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## Terms of Reference

### **techUK Data Centres Council (UK Council of Data Centre Operators)**



#### **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](http://www.techuk.org)