

techUK Data Centres Technical Committee

Terms of Reference

October 2015

Purpose

The Data Centres Technical Committee was originally established to advise techUK's Data Centres Council and provide expert technical input to policy responses, publications and other communications. However, the Committee's remit has since broadened to include the provision of objective advice about the technical and market characteristics of the sector to external stakeholders, especially government. The Committee is also responsible for developing external publications in the form of "Technical Briefs" and "Technical Committee Communications" in conjunction with techUK's Data Centres Council.

Operation

techUK's Data Centres Technical Committee members collectively possess a wide spectrum of technical expertise relevant to the sector. While the core expertise is engineering and technology focused, some members specialise in business processes, others cover operational aspects and some are experts on market trends, policy or legislation. The Committee also includes external observers to ensure objectivity. Members are appointed on the basis of the specific areas of knowledge that they can contribute. The Committee works informally where possible and only meets physically when necessary. Technical Committee publications are approved for external release through the Data Centres Council.

Responsibilities

The Committee:

- Advises techUK's Data Centres Council on technical issues of relevance to the sector
- Provides technical input to publications and policy responses relevant to data centres
- Represents the sector in technical discussions with government
- Provides objective information about the sector to external stakeholders
- Develops Technical Briefs to explain specific aspects of data centre operation to third parties.
- Develops Communications and Opinions on technical developments relevant to the sector.
- Acts as a trusted sounding board for government seeking input on relevant issues
- Works directly with external stakeholders on specific industry issues

Membership

The Technical Committee comprises 15 to 20 individuals, plus secretariat. The Chairman is Professor Ian Bitterlin and the Vice Chair is Mark Acton. The membership is not kept to a strict limit because there may be occasions where it is necessary to expand our expertise in order to handle a particular enquiry. If you would like to join the Technical Committee, please get in touch with the secretariat.

Secretariat

Emma Fryer, Associate Director

E: emma.fryer@techuk.org

T: 020 7331 2160 / 01609 772 137 / M: 07595 410 653

Lucas Banach, Programme Assistant

E: lucas.banach@techk.org

T: 020 7331 2006