AI Regulation in the UK

AI Governance White Paper

AI Regulation
Policy Paper

AI Safety Summit

AI Safety Summit
Event

Government response to AI Governance White Paper

AI Regulation
Policy Paper

The current UK regulatory landscape

The success of our AI ecosystem is in part down to the **UK's reputation for the quality of its regulators and its rule of law**.

This includes the **transparency of the UK's regulatory regime**, the detailed scrutiny that proposed regulation receives and comprehensive impact assessments.

While there are no UK laws that were explicitly written to regulate AI, it is **partially regulated by a range of legal and regulatory requirements** built for other purposes which now also capture uses of AI technologies.

What are the key challenges?

A lack of clarity

The extent to which UK laws apply to AI is often a matter of interpretation, making them hard to navigate. This is particularly an issue for smaller businesses who may not have any legal support.

Overlaps

Laws and regulators' remits may regulate the same issue for the same reason and this lack of clarity can lead to unnecessary, contradictory or confusing layers of regulation. This is more an more under control due to the Digital Regulator Coordination Forum (DRCF)

Inconsistency

There are differences between the powers of regulators to address the use of AI within their remit as well as the extent to which they have started to do so. AI technologies used in different sectors are therefore subject to different controls.

Gaps in our approach

As current UK legislation has not been developed with AI in mind, there may be current risks that are already inadequately addressed, and future risks associated with widespread use of AI that we need to prepare for.

A framework for regulating AI

Context-specific

AI is a dynamic, general purpose technology and that the risks arising from it depend principally on the context of its application.

Pro-innovation and risk-based

Regulators will focus on applications of AI that result in real, identifiable, unacceptable levels of risk, rather than seeking to impose controls on uses of AI that pose low or hypothetical risk to avoid stifling innovation.

Coherent

Ensure the system is simple, clear, predictable and stable.

Proportionate and adaptable

Regulators to consider options, such as guidance or voluntary measures, in the first instance.

The core principles

Ensure that AI is used safely

Ensure that AI is technically secure and functions as designed

Make sure that AI is appropriately transparent and explainable

Consider fairness

Identify a legal person to be responsible for AI

Clarify routes to redress or contestability

AI Safety Summit

Government's response

AI White Paper consultation and AI Summit activities

| 33 questions | 364 roundtable & workshop participants | 24 pre-summit events held | 29 parties* endorsed the Bletchley Declaration | AI Regulation White Paper Consultation Response |

409 written responses

White Paper Consultation Activities — **Summit Activities**

AI Regulation White Paper → 12-Week Public Consultation → Roundtables and Workshops → Road to Summit → AI Safety Summit → AI Regulation White Paper Consultation Response

| Mar. 2023 | Jun. 2023 | Aug. 2023 | Nov. 2023 | Feb. 2024 |

*28 countries and the European Union
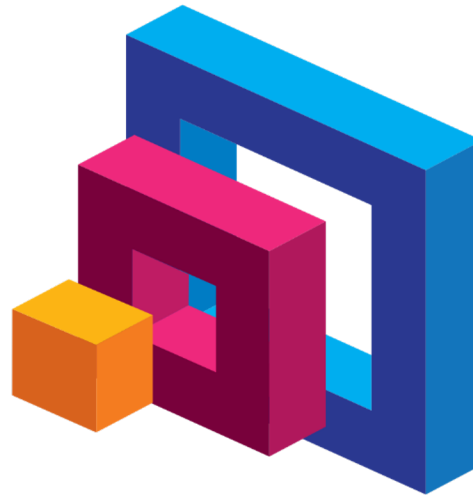
The wider system of AI governance

AI Standards Hub

The Hub increases UK engagement in the development of global technical standards for AI.

The Hub creates practical tools and bring the UK's multi-stakeholder AI community together to ensure that global AI standards are shaped by a wide range of experts, in line with our values, to deliver the tools needed for AI governance.

AI assurance roadmap

The AI assurance roadmap sets out the steps required to build a world-leading AI assurance ecosystem in the UK, with a potential to become a "multibillion-pound industry in its own right, unlocking growth and thousands of new job opportunities".

AI regulations

The UK's regulatory approach to AI will build on our strength in our regulatory landscape. AI is an evolving field, so rather than blanket regulation, we will ensure a nuanced regulatory system with a proportionate and evidence-based approach to managing risk. This will offer further support for those who want to innovate responsibly with AI.

In July 2023 the government set out its regulatory approach with the AI Regulation Whitepaper.

In November 2023, the AI Safety Summit took place.

February 2024, the government published its response to the Whitepaper.