

# Government Cyber Security Advisory Board

The Government Cyber Security Strategy (GCSS) was launched in January 2022 outlining the vision to ensure that core government functions are resilient to cyber attack, strengthening the UK as a sovereign nation and cementing its authority as a democratic and responsible cyber power.

Please note we are no longer accepting Expressions of Interest (EoI) for membership of the Government Cyber Security Advisory Board (GCSAB). GCSAB will build on the success of the External Challenge Panel that brought industry and academic perspectives to support the development of the GCSS.

GCSAB will be a body comprised of independent external experts to build better links between government, the private sector and academia. It will provide independent perspectives and input from experts across industry and academia into providing solutions to the challenges of government cyber security, through rigorous challenge and driving best practices across government.

The objectives of the GCSAB will be to:

- support the government to keep on track to achieve the GCSS aim of ensuring all government organisations across the whole public sector being resilient to known vulnerabilities and attack methods no later than 2030
- aid the long-term improvement of government cyber security by providing advice, expertise and guidance, and where required additional programme resource
- bring depth and experience across multiple fields with a diversity of viewpoints to improve policy making by providing solutions to particular problems and challenges
- identify solutions and proposals on how to achieve the 24 GCSS outcomes
- ensure government is leveraging industry expertise to deliver on the goals of the strategy

## **Membership Requirements**

### **Eligibility**

The Government Cyber Security Advisory Board will gather individual expertise in cyber security from industry and academia. We are not seeking expressions of interest from organisations, although we welcome candidates who can leverage the knowledge and experience that comes from their organisations themselves.

Candidates must have specific cyber security professional expertise, competence or knowledge with regard to areas covered in the GCSS, including:

- cyber security strategy, standards and assurance
- governance, risk and management
- programme delivery
- cyber detection and response
- technology
- cyber skills and culture

The GCSAB will meet once every two months, excluding August, virtually, but there may be requirements to attend in person in London.

## **Diversity**

HMG embraces and values diversity in all forms. We welcome and pride ourselves on the positive impact diversity has on the work we do, and we promote equality of opportunity throughout the organisation. We therefore encourage applications from the widest range of qualified groups.

## **Selection process**

Applications are now closed.

In the cover letter, candidates should set out their reasons for applying for the Government Cyber Security Advisory Board, their suitability for membership and how they meet the requirements set out in Eligibility.

Applications are now closed. The deadline for receipt of applications was 11.59pm 6 June 2022.

Any queries about this process, should be sent to [gsgcyber@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:gsgcyber@cabinetoffice.gov.uk).

## **Next steps**

Following the EoI campaign, we will determine membership while ensuring that membership is representative of the diversity of the United Kingdom.

We will publish the outcome of the EoI campaign as soon as possible and in any event ahead of the first meeting of the Government Cyber Security Advisory Board.

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## **[GLD colleagues recognised in Queen's Birthday Honours List 2022](#)**

As we continue to celebrate the outstanding work being done across government, we are delighted to share that 3 GLD colleagues, and one former

colleague, have been recognised in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Virginia Bennett and Catherine (Cat) Gulliver, both senior lawyers in the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Legal Advisers, have been awarded O.B.E's for services to climate change law. Virginia and Cat have both worked on a wide variety of climate change matters, in particular, climate and trade, the climate parts of the UK/EU Trade & Cooperation Agreement, and climate change and human rights. They also provide advice on international climate negotiations and both attended the COP26 climate summit where they supported and provided guidance to the UK Presidency team.

Virginia and Cat reflect:

"We are both thrilled to have been awarded O.B.Es. We'd also like thank everyone in our legal team, everyone in the COP26 Unit, and all of our other colleagues. Everyone we work with shows incredible passion and commitment to getting the UK and the world on track for net zero and we feel privileged to be part of the team. We also want to remember our dear colleague Clare Radcliffe who dedicated so much to the civil service, to GLD, and to climate work in particular."

Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) Legal Advisers Deputy Legal Director Henry Ripley has been awarded a C.B.E for his services to the law, specifically for his work on supporting the government in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Henry led the DHSC team through the drafting of an immense amount of legislation that protected the public during the unprecedented time. Henry reflects:

"I am incredibly touched by this, not least because it recognises the astonishing work done by DHSC Legal Advisers during the COVID-19 pandemic. I couldn't have asked for a more supportive, talented, can-do and good humoured group of colleagues to deliver so much of the government's COVID-19 response – so this is for them."

Finally previous Director General Stephen Braviner Roman who received a C.B also for his services to the law. Stephen was at GLD for over 25 years and led on EU Exit, COVID-19 and setting up the GLD office in Leeds.

Of these awards Director General Elizabeth Hambley said, "On behalf of my Board and Executive Committee colleagues I would like to offer many congratulations to Virginia, Cat and Henry. You have all played a pivotal role leading hugely important and at times challenging work in the civil service, and this recognition of your contribution is richly deserved. We are also delighted that Stephen's public service has been recognised in this way and send him our best wishes and congratulations."

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# Changes to Flood Warning Service for homes and properties along the River Beult

People living and working in Headcorn on the River Beult are now able to register to receive free Flood Warnings from the Environment Agency by phone, text and email. Previously only flood alerts could be issued for this area.

To be able to provide this new Flood Warning Service, the Environment Agency has installed a new telemetry station in Headcorn to monitor local water levels. If you are a Headcorn resident, please [check your flood risk](#) and sign up for the new [Flood Warning Service](#).

The Environment Agency has also improved the Flood Warning Service along the whole of the River Beult. The River Beult has been subject to flooding, most recently in the winter floods of 2013 and the summer floods of 2020.

A new arrangement to give more timely flood alerts now splits the River Beult at Stilebridge, near the A229:

- Properties upstream of the A229 are now in the River Beult from Pluckley and Bethersden to Stilebridge Flood Alert Area
- Properties downstream of the A229 are now in the River Beult from Stilebridge to Hampstead Lock at Yalding Flood Alert Area

If you are already registered to receive Flood Alerts from the Environment Agency, you do not need to take any action. Your flood warning registration will be automatically updated.

If you are not registered and wish to sign up to receive Flood Alerts or Flood Warnings for the River Beult or other locations, [you can do so here](#).

Alex Francois, Flood and Coastal Risk Management Advisor, said:

We are pleased we have been able to make these improvements to our free Flood Warning Service available. It lets us warn the local community when flooding is expected, giving them notice to protect themselves and their possessions.

Even if your property or business is not at direct risk of flooding from the River Beult and its tributaries, you can still sign up to the service to stay informed of the local situation.

The Environment Agency monitors river levels to assess the risk of flooding

and, as necessary, issues one of 3 levels of warning:

- Flood Alert – Flooding is possible. Be prepared.
- Flood Warning – Flooding is expected. Immediate action required.
- Severe Flood Warning – Severe Flooding. Danger to life.

The River Beult Flood Warning Service is just one of almost 3,500 Flood Warning Areas throughout England covered by the Environment Agency.

Flood Warning and Flood Alert message information can be accessed at any time from Floodline, the Environment Agency's dedicated flood information service, by calling 0345 988 1188 or [visiting the website](#).

See [information on preparing for flooding](#).

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## [Embraer ERJ 170-100 LR, G-CIXW: Anniversary Statement](#)

News story

Embraer ERJ 170-100 LR, G-CIXW, on descent into Birmingham Airport on 7 June 2021.



This statement provides an update on the AAIB investigation into a serious incident involving an Embraer ERJ 170-100 LR, registration G-CIXW, on descent into Birmingham Airport on 7 June 2021.

The pilots were alerted to a pitch trim failure and associated autopilot failure, which resulted in greater nose-down control forces in pitch,

requiring the pilot to use more force to control the aircraft than was normal for an approach. On landing, the pilots were alerted to a fault in the steering system. No injuries or damage were reported. The investigation is nearing completion and the report will shortly be disseminated for consultation. Publication of the report is expected in the fourth quarter of 2022.

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## [Identity and Language \(NI\) Bill:](#) [Second Reading Opening Speech](#)

My Lords, I apologise at the outset if my voice is a little croakier than normal: it is entirely down, I think, to four days of singing “God Save the Queen”.

Before turning to the Bill, I would like to make two brief observations. First, I associate myself and the Government with the outrage and abhorrence expressed throughout Northern Ireland in recent days at the vile videos circulating regarding the tragic killing of Michaela McAreevey in 2011. The actions of those responsible are contemptible beyond words; they are in no way representative of unionism or loyalism, and our thoughts are very much with the McAreevey and Harte families at this very difficult time.

Secondly, and on a more positive note, Northern Ireland, like the rest of the United Kingdom, has just spent four days celebrating the glorious reign, devotion to duty, integrity and selfless leadership of Her Majesty the Queen.

I would like to thank all those responsible for planning events and activities that I know were enjoyed right across the community. The fact that I had messages at the weekend from people of a nationalist background expressing their admiration for the Queen is testimony to Her Majesty’s unique ability to unite people and bring them together.

The context of the Bill before the House this afternoon is the collapse of devolved government from 2017 to 2020 and the intensive efforts over almost three years to restore it. Although issues around language and identity were not the prime reason for the collapse in January 2017, during the subsequent Assembly election and beyond the capacity of these issues to poison debate and paralyse politics in Northern Ireland became all too apparent.

It quickly became clear that without substantial progress on them, there was little prospect of seeing a return of the institutions that are such an integral part of the Belfast agreement that we in this Government staunchly support and uphold.

I will not detain the House with the details of the multiple phases of talks that took place during those three years. As one who played a role in the majority of them as a government adviser, I can say that it was a deeply frustrating experience that I do not look back on with any affection. It was proof, if any were needed, that it is far easier to pull down the institutions in Northern Ireland than it is to build them.

Eventually, following the 2019 general election, in January 2020 the UK and Irish Governments were able to present the document New Decade, New Approach to the main Northern Ireland parties as the basis for reforming the Executive, which duly happened.

Of course, integral to New Decade, New Approach were commitments, principally though not exclusively in Annex E, on identity and language, based on the discussions of the previous three years.

Crucially, the document contained a commitment in part 2, paragraph 25 to “respect the freedom of all persons in Northern Ireland to choose, affirm, maintain and develop their national and cultural identity and to celebrate and express that identity in a manner which takes into account the sensitivities of those with different national or cultural identities and respects the rule of law.”

As set out in New Decade, New Approach, the provisions on identity and language were to be taken forward by the restored Executive through three separate pieces of legislation, the main contents of which were published in Annex E and in the three draft Bills prepared by the Office of the Legislative Counsel in Northern Ireland at the request of the UK Government, to support a successful conclusion to the ongoing political talks to restore the Executive.

Once passed, these Acts would then become new, dedicated parts of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, reflecting the importance and significance of these issues to many people right across society.

It was always the Government’s intention and very clear preference that these provisions would be delivered by the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly, as they are devolved matters.

Regrettably, however, by the autumn of last year it became clear that this was unlikely to happen any time soon, and my right honourable friend the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland decided to take these matters forward in this sovereign Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Bill before the House today honours that commitment.

It represents a balanced package of measures that faithfully implements in one piece of legislation Annex E of New Decade, New Approach, recognises Northern Ireland’s rich diversity of identity and language, and benefits both Irish language speakers and those from the Ulster Scots and Ulster British tradition.

It comes in addition to a number of other steps being taken by the UK

Government under New Decade, New Approach, as set out in the annexe on UK Government commitments to Northern Ireland.

Last year, therefore, we announced £2 million in funding for Northern Ireland Screen's Ulster Scots and Irish language broadcasting funds to help deliver more high-quality Irish and Ulster Scots broadcasting in Northern Ireland. In May of this year, the Government officially recognised Ulster Scots as a national minority under the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

At the same time, under the section of New Decade, New Approach titled, "Addressing Northern Ireland's unique circumstances", we made available £4 million to the Irish Language Investment Fund to support capital projects associated with the Irish language.

Turning to the Bill, Clause 1 amends the Northern Ireland Act 1998 to make provision for national and cultural identity principles and requires specific public authorities to have due regard to them when carrying out their functions. To summarise, these principles affirm the freedom of everybody in Northern Ireland to choose, affirm, maintain and develop their national and cultural identity within the law.

They establish the important role of public authorities in promoting reconciliation, tolerance and parity of esteem. The clause also establishes a new office of identity and cultural expression to promote awareness and to monitor and encourage compliance with the principles outlined above.

It will be a statutory body and its director will be appointed by the First and Deputy First Ministers of Northern Ireland, acting jointly. It will be able to provide funding to groups and organisations in support of the cultural and linguistic heritage of Northern Ireland.

Clause 2 amends the Northern Ireland Act to make provision for the official recognition of the status of the Irish language and the appointment of an Irish language commissioner to enhance and protect its use by public authorities when they are providing services.

The commissioner, who will be appointed by the First and Deputy First Ministers, acting jointly, will develop standards of best practice to which public authorities must have due regard. These standards, intended to be "reasonable, proportionate and practical", will have to be approved by the First and Deputy First Ministers before they can take effect.

The commissioner will also monitor and promote compliance with approved standards and investigate complaints where it is claimed that a public authority has failed to comply with its obligations.

Clause 3 makes provision for the appointment of a commissioner for the enhancement and development of the language, arts and literature associated with the Ulster Scots and Ulster British tradition. They will, for example, promote awareness of Ulster Scots services provided by public authorities and provide and publish advice, support and guidance in respect of language, arts



and literature.

Reflecting the Government's recent recognition of Ulster Scots under the framework convention, this advice will also cover the effect and implementation of certain named international instruments. The commissioner will also be required to investigate complaints that a public authority did not have due regard to guidance relating to facilitating the use of Ulster Scots in the provision of services to the public.

The Government are of course mindful of the potential impacts of these three new public authorities on Northern Ireland's carefully balanced constitutional framework, including the north-south language body and human rights institutions. For that reason, all three new public authorities will be able to co-operate with and, as they deem fit, consult the various language bodies and human rights institutions in Northern Ireland as they go about their work, such as the Ulster-Scots Agency and Foras na Gaeilge, which I met in Belfast last week.

This reflects the vision set out in New Decade, New Approach Clause 4 will repeal the Administration of Justice (Language) Act (Ireland) 1737 so that provision for the use of languages other than English in proceedings will be a matter for the Northern Ireland Courts Service to determine as and when it deems necessary.

I should point out to those who might still be concerned about this that the equivalent legislation for England and Wales was repealed by Lord Palmerston in 1863.

Clause 5 amends the Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 to place a duty on the Department of Education in Northern Ireland to encourage and facilitate the use and understanding of Ulster Scots in the education system. Clauses 6 and 7 contain important concurrent powers and powers of direction for the Secretary of State to ensure the implementation of the commitments in this Bill. Finally, the remaining Clauses 7 to 11 deal with consequential and general provisions.

The Bill is an important milestone in the delivery of New Decade, New Approach, which was so instrumental to the restoration of devolved government in January 2020. It takes forward commitments on identity and language for the whole community in Northern Ireland. In doing so, this Government recognises the rich tapestry of identities, languages and culture which enhance, enrich and strengthen, rather than weaken, our United Kingdom.

This legislation complements and underpins this Government's vision of a Northern Ireland which is open, inclusive and tolerant and embraces people from all parts of the community regardless of their religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

This Government are and will remain steadfast in their belief in the union and Northern Ireland's integral place within it, but recognise that, if the union is to prosper and endure, it must work for everyone. I believe that this carefully balanced piece of legislation achieves just that. In that

spirit, I commend it to the House.

As they say in Irish, sin é. I beg to move.