



GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards 2023

Entry Form

To submit an entry to the GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards please complete and email this form to secretariat@globalprivacyassembly.org **no later than 9 June 2023**.

Note: GPA member authorities can submit as many entries as they wish, but a separate form should be used for each different entry, submitted by the deadline above.

Languages: The GPA documentation Rule 6.2¹ applies.

1. CONTACT DETAILS FOR THIS ENTRY

Privacy/Data Protection Authority:	Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)	
Person completing this form:	Peter	Berry
	<i>First name</i>	<i>Last name</i>
Job title:	Lead Policy Officer	
Email address:	Peter.berry@ico.org.uk	

2. ELIGIBILITY

By submitting this entry, I confirm that (*please tick all boxes to confirm*):

- The Authority is a member of the Global Privacy Assembly
- The initiative described in this entry was undertaken since January 2022.

- I am aware that the information in the entry (other than the contact details in 1(a) above) will be publicised by the GPA Secretariat.

3. CATEGORIES

Please indicate which category you wish to enter.

*Please tick **one**; please use a separate form for each category you wish to enter:*

- Education and Public Awareness
- Accountability
- Dispute Resolution and Enforcement
- Innovation

¹ [GPA Rules and Procedures](#), Rule 6.2 'Assembly documents':

Without prejudice to section 4.2, Assembly documents, including accreditation and observer applications may be submitted in English or in another language. In the latter case, the documents shall be accompanied by an English version. Members with the ability and the resources to do so are encouraged to translate proposed resolutions and other Assembly documents such as the Assembly Rules and Procedures.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVE

a. Please provide a brief summary of the initiative (no more than 75 words)

The ICO's inaugural Tech Horizons Report examines the privacy implications of some of the most significant technologies we expect to emerge in the next two to five years.

This report, which specifically looks at consumer healthtech, next generation IoT, immersive technologies and decentralised finance, is the product of a rigorous horizon scan process and aims to put the ICO, and regulators and policymakers more generally, in a strong position to respond to rapid technological change.

b. Please provide a full description of the initiative (no more than 350 words)

We see a growing set of technologies which collect personal information in ways that can be untransparent and over which people often do not have meaningful control. The complexity of data ecosystems can make it difficult for people to understand how their personal information is being processed. With the pace of technological change, these challenges are set to exacerbate. To allow the ICO, and regulators and policymakers more generally, to better anticipate these changes, we have set up a dedicated foresight function, which looks at the possible trajectories of key innovations. The foresight team's flagship publication is an annual Tech Horizons Report, which seeks to ready the ICO to respond to these new challenges as they emerge.

The ICO seeks to foster trust in how organisations process personal information. Its aim is to empower people to safely share information and to use innovative products and services, which have become increasingly pivotal to our economies and societies. To this end, we undertook a horizon scan which sought to identify the most significant technological developments for privacy in the near to medium term (2-5 years).

We applied rigorous foresight methodologies to identify an initial list of 65 prominent emerging technologies. We then analysed these technologies on factors such as: the number of people likely to be affected by their deployment, and the magnitude of risks and benefits to people and society. This process resulted in the selection of four priority technologies: consumer healthtech, next generation IoT, immersive technologies and decentralised finance to be the main focus of our inaugural Tech Horizons Report.

Through stakeholder engagement with industry experts, academic, peer regulators as well as in-depth desk research, we were able to set out possible future trajectories of these technologies. The inaugural report also provides specific recommendations to support innovators to ensure they develop these technologies while proactively adhering to data protection legislation.

The report has allowed us to make key internal changes; its findings are now integrated into the strategic aims of our regulatory sandbox so that we can engage with the relevant stakeholder communities early in the lifecycle of innovative technology.

c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award
(no more than 200 words)

The report is an example of the ICO's dedication to rigorous foresight methods, which will help it to be a more effective regulator in the face of ever accelerating innovation and technological change.

Our extensive engagement with third parties over the course of the report's composition demonstrates the ICO is an outward looking regulator and evidences its willingness to engage with a wide range of stakeholders to inform its work, and commitment to empowering the public through information.

The report offered valuable information and analysis about new technologies and their possible privacy implications, especially for the most vulnerable groups in society. It opened up the public discussions about likely technological developments and their potential impact on our privacy through accessible language, style and format. The report also offered value to data controllers and businesses by offering advice on how innovators might meet their data protection obligations whilst continuing to innovate.

The report also set the stage for further futures-based public and stakeholder engagement, including through a second edition of the report, which will be released later this year. The ICO will continue to analyse emerging trends in technology to ensure it stays at the forefront of these key developments.

d. Please include a photograph or image, if you wish *(This will be published with your entry on the GPA website. The image can be pasted into the box below, be sent as an attachment or a link may be provided)*

e. Please provide the most relevant link on the authority's website to the initiative, if applicable *(The website content does not need to be in English)*

[Tech Horizons Report | ICO](#)

f. Please provide any other relevant links that help explain the initiative or its impact or success (e.g. links to news reports or articles):

- [Coverage of report by The International Association of Privacy Professionals \(IAPP\)](#)
- [Coverage by Lexis Nexis regarding the report's implications for the insurance industry](#)
- [Coverage of report by Slaughter and May](#)