

Online Safety Act 2021 (Cth)

Section 141(1)

REQUEST TO DEVELOP AN INDUSTRY CODE

To: John Stanton, Chief Executive Officer; Sunita Bose, Managing Director

By email: [REDACTED]

This notice is issued on 1 July 2024 under section 141(1) of the ~~Online Safety Act 2021~~ (the Act).

As eSafety Commissioner, I am satisfied that Communications Alliance and Digital Industry Group Inc together represent the group consisting of providers of internet search engine services, so far as those services are provided to end-users in Australia (s 135(2)(d)).

Under section 141(1) of the Act, I request that you:

- develop an industry code that applies to participants in the group consisting of providers of internet search engine services, so far as those services are provided to end-users in Australia, and deals with the matters listed in Schedule A to this notice, which relate to the online activities of those participants, and
- provide me with a copy of the code by COB **Thursday 19 December 2024**.

In accordance with section 141(5) of the Act, I specify an indicative target for achieving progress in the development of the code requested under section 141(1). This indicative target is that you:

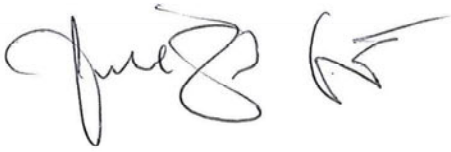
- provide me with a preliminary draft of the code by COB **Thursday 3 October 2024**.

Consequences of non-compliance

Under section 145(1)(a) of the Act, the eSafety Commissioner may, by legislative instrument, be permitted to determine an industry standard that applies to participants in the group consisting of providers of internet search engine services, so far as those services are provided to end-users in Australia (s 135(2)(d)), if:

- the request in this notice is not complied with
- a draft code developed in response to this notice does not contain appropriate community safeguards to deal with one or more of the matters specified in Schedule A to this notice
- the indicative target specified for achieving progress in the development of the code is not met, or
- the request in this notice is complied with, but the eSafety Commissioner subsequently refuses to register the code.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Inman Grant', followed by a stylized flourish or mark.

Name: Julie Inman Grant

eSafety Commissioner

Dated 28 June 2024

SCHEDULE A – Matters

Definitions for the below matters are contained in Schedule B.

MATTER 1

Protect and prevent children in Australia from accessing or being exposed to class 1C and class 2 material.

MATTER 2

Provide end-users in Australia who use internet search engine services with effective information, tools and options to limit access and exposure to class 1C and class 2 material.

SCHEDULE B – Definitions

In this notice:

Class 1 material has the same meaning as in section 106 of the *Online Safety Act 2021*

Class 2 material has the same meaning as in section 107 of the *Online Safety Act 2021*

Class 1C material is class 1 material that depicts particular online pornography.

Particular online pornography has the same meaning as in sections A6, A7 and A8 of Annexure A to the Head Terms of the *Consolidated Industry Codes of Practice for the Online Industry (Class 1A and Class 1B Material)*.