

August 8, 2023

FROM - Dr. Aiden Maxwell, Chief Advisor on Artificial Intelligence

FOLLOW UP

Establishment of a Digital Skills Network in the wake of the Artificial Intelligence Regulatory Framework

SUMMARY

1. Following the approval of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Regulatory Framework, it is essential to create a robust Digital Skills Network to empower our workforce with the knowledge and skills required to adapt to the AI-driven future. This initiative aims to bolster AI literacy across all sectors, facilitate reskilling, and foster innovation within the regulatory boundaries. Implementing such a network will help ensure that AI advances contribute to economic growth and social prosperity.

RECOMMENDATION

2. We propose the establishment of a nationwide Digital Skills Network. Does the Minister approve of the initiation of this strategic plan?

TIMING

3. A decision by September 1, 2023, would be preferable. A delay in this initiative could widen the digital skills gap, negatively impacting our workforce's competitiveness and adaptability in the AI era.

BACKGROUND

4. With the implementation of the AI Regulatory Framework, it is necessary to align our workforce's skills with the requirements of an AI-driven society.
5. **BRIDGING THE SKILLS GAP:** The introduction of AI in various sectors necessitates a digitally skilled workforce. The proposed network aims to bridge this skills gap and prepare our workforce for the future.
6. **SUPPORTING INNOVATION:** The network will not only educate about AI's ethical use within regulatory boundaries but also inspire and support AI innovation.
7. **RESKILLING AND UPSKILLING:** The Digital Skills Network will provide opportunities for reskilling and upskilling, thereby reducing job displacement due to AI and creating new employment opportunities.
8. **AI LITERACY:** To ensure informed usage and discussion of AI, the network will also focus on spreading AI literacy among the general public.
9. Establishing a Digital Skills Network is a crucial step towards ensuring our workforce remains competitive and our society can fully leverage the benefits of AI in an ethical and safe manner.

CLEARANCE LIST

Team	Clearance necessary?	Named lead who has cleared
SCS	Mandatory	Sir Winston Radcliffe
Perm Sec	No	
Second Perm Sec	No	
Communications (inc named Press Officer)	Yes	Lara Chambers
Finance/Fiscal Events	Yes	Dominic Sterling
HR	No	
Legal	No	
Parliamentary Unit	No	
Devolution	No	
Analysis	No	
HMTC	Yes	Isabella Sinclair
Other	Yes	Office for Artificial Intelligence