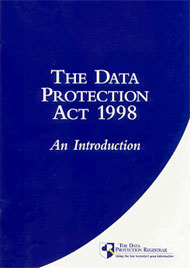
**P4 – Review the regulations governing e-commerce**

**Introduction**

In this report, I will review the regulations that are set for e-commerce. I will discuss Data Protection Act 1998, Computer Misuse Act 1990 and Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=3YCYOuyDvVgVYM&tbnid=-SeqgpgXdHO-wM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.teach-ict.com/gcse_new/legal/dpa/miniweb/&ei=cG9NUt_OG-is7QaA5IHICA&bvm=bv.53537100,d.ZGU&psig=AFQjCNH7WfTRlEOHAMkDpTEvIxgDJZWRUA&ust=1380892906437598)Data Protection Act 1998**

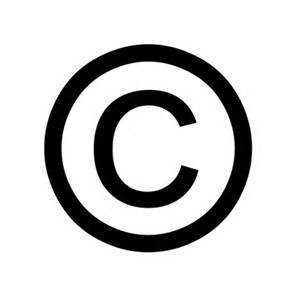
This act was introduced in the 1998s for businesses or any organisation that deals with information, that transfer data needs to be lawfully processed. This law was set for every employee, as this is vital that the employee’s vital information cannot be reach to anyone. Only certain information is taken, to ensure the safety of the employee is harmless. It is supposed to be secure so nobody can get hold of the information. Data has to be confirmed that the data is accurate. This links to Tick Tock, because certain employee’s information cannot be held with another functional area/employee. For example, if the human resources department have all the data for the employees and the finance department asks information about details about the employee. They will give the basics; name, how much they get. They cannot give anything else. If the data protection act is misused, they will either be fined, prosecuted. Others can get hold of this vital information and can do anything with it. They will be fined, as they have not followed the legislation that was set. If Tick Tock were to be in trouble, they will receive a heavy fine. For example, if another business were named Tick Tock, and this company used it without the other businesses consent, they need to rebrand it or change the name.

Figure 1

**Computer Misuse Act 1990**

This legislation was introduced in the 1990s for businesses, or any organisation that deals with information to treat and not misuse information that they provide. For example, for Tick Tock, the finance department will deal with PCs, which they will be provided usernames and passwords for the computer. This links to Tick Tock, because data will need to be secure. If people get access to the data, they might delete it and misuse it. If you get access to the information, it is committing a crime. This will be needed in a business, because if another employee gets hold of a piece of information that is not relevant to their needs, they will be breaking the law. Some examples of misusing information can be hacking to another person’s account or material, computer fraud, physically taking someone’s information without permission. According to the link provided below in the reference, if a person breaks this law they could go to prison up to 12 months/ or obtained a fine. These can be some of the issues depending on how high level of committed crime was committed.

**Copyright Legislation**

Copyright is a legal concept enacted by the government that enables businesses or any owner of a graphical image that give the owner rights and policies of how to use the unique work that they have created. It gives a licence so it can let others use it. This is the copyright logo that could be inserted within the unique granted image. This shows that it has been copyrighted. It is not as big as this but it is small. Many people need to recognise it before use.

[](http://images.tentebranda.org/free-copyright-images/free-copyright-images-7/)**-Copyright free**

Copyright free, as the name suggest, is has no licence over the use of the image. This means that the graphical image can be used on works for free. The major way the image can be copyright free once its licence is expired. For it to be copyright, it needs to be licenced and continued to be reviewed. Once it has not been licenced, it is copyright free.

**E-Commerce Regulations**

Electronic Commerce Regulations (2002) is set for businesses and it includes rights for them. These rights include the following:

* Allowing customers to replace order, if anything is gone wrong. For example, instead of 10, they should have typed in 100.
* The business should provide information about themselves e.g. name, location
* Receipt should be available for the customer
* Communication should be enabled

These rights have to be acknowledged. If anything is wrong with the product, the customer has to have these for an e-commerce website.

**Freedom of Information Act 2000**

This act involves information by public authorities. These could be companies such as NHS, sate schools, police forces and other public sectors. They hold information in two ways. One of the ways is that these public authorities are obliged to publish certain information, and the other way is that the member of public is entitled to request information. This is not entitled straight away. A person cannot demand another person’s personal information just as if they want too. If that same person wants to see information regarding themselves, he or she is entitled to it under the act of Data Protection. This is related to e-commerce, because the web owners can hold information, and the customers are entitled to receiving it. This also means that the owners need to treat all information equally, and disclose any information.

Figure 2

**How it might influence Tick Tock?**

It might influence Tick Tock by them making ‘Tick Tock’ brank unique. If anyone else has this name, they will need to change it immediately. Before even creating a brand name, you need to research if your brand name is available. Consequences could be faced for Computer Misuse Act if the act is not followed. Each penalty is different. A summary of all of them could be faced with prison and hit with a fine. It varies depending on how serious the user violated the act. This goes to Tick Tock. If any of their employees is misusing the computer, consequences are heavy and it could result in looking bad at the company. Brand image is important and it is important to keep it in a good way.

**Reference**

* <http://www.pitmans.com/directors-toolkit/home/it-outsourcing-data-protection/what-is-the-data-protection-act-and-how-does-it-affect-my-business/>
* <http://www.sqa.org.uk/e-learning/ProfIssues02CD/page_08.htm>
* <http://www.out-law.com/page-5538>