

Table showing updates to Illegal Harms regulatory documents and guidance

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- 1.1 This table shows the changes we are making to the Illegal Harms regulatory products and guidance. We are making these updates to reflect the creation of two new priority offences under the Act: encouraging or assisting serious self-harm, and cyberflashing.
- 1.2 For more detail on the changes, please see the [statement document](#).
- 1.3 In addition to the substantive changes set out in this table, we have made a number of consequential drafting changes, for example changing any reference from 'non-priority' offence to 'priority offence' where appropriate.
- 1.4 The amendments to the Codes will be implemented separately. We have published draft consolidated versions of the relevant Codes incorporating the draft amendments that Ofcom intends to submit to the Secretary of State.

1.5 Their implementation will be subject to parliamentary process, and the amendments will come into force once this process is completed. We will provide updates on the timing of this process.

Table of changes – Encouraging or assisting serious self-harm and cyberflashing

Chapter	Proposal
<p style="text-align: center;">Codes (Self-harm)</p>	<p>Changes to how measures will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures that apply to services that are multi-risk will also apply to services that are multi-risk because they are medium or high risk for suicide and self-harm (in addition to at least one other kind of illegal harm). • Measures that apply to services that are medium or high risk for any kind of illegal harm will also apply to services that medium or high risk for suicide and self-harm. • Measures that set out that providers should take action for all kinds of priority illegal content will also apply to self-harm content. • Measures that specifically apply to suicide content or services at medium or high risk of suicide content will also apply to self-harm content and relevant services at medium or high risk of self-harm. This includes measures relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) On-platform testing of recommender systems (ICU E1); b) Reporting of predictive search suggestions (ICS F1); c) Provision of crisis prevention information (ICS F3) – and change in the measure to refer to “suicide and/or self-harm prevention organisation”; d) Blocking and muting (ICU J1); and e) Disabling comments (ICU J2).
<p style="text-align: center;">Codes (Cyberflashing)</p>	<p>Changes to how measures will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures that apply to services that are multi-risk will also apply to services that are multi-risk because they are medium or high risk for cyberflashing (in addition to at least one other kind of illegal harm). • Measures that apply to services that are medium or high risk for any kind of illegal harm will also apply to services that medium or high risk for cyberflashing. • Measures that set out that providers should take action for all kinds of priority illegal content will also apply to cyberflashing content.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure ICU J1 relating to blocking and muting will also apply to relevant services at medium or high risk of cyberflashing
ICJG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combine the suicide and self-harm sections of the ICJG (Section 13, pp.177-184). • Combine the suicide and self-harm annexes (Section A14 of Annex 1, pp.418-421). • Remove Section A5 of Annex 2, Encouraging or assisting serious self-harm. • Add new sub-sections for self-harm to demonstrate the types of content providers may need to consider for the purpose of their risk assessments. (Section 13 p.183). • Move the section of the ICJG relating to cyberflashing (Section 10, Image based adult sexual offences, pp.167-169). Create a separate sub-section within this section for cyberflashing. • Move the content of the cyberflashing annex (Section A11, Annex 1, Image based adult sexual offences, pp.406 - 407). Create a separate sub-section within this section for cyberflashing. • Remove Section A4 of Annex 2, Cyberflashing. • Add new sub-sections for cyberflashing to demonstrate the types of content providers may need to consider for the purpose of their risk assessments (Section 10, pp.168 - 169). • Remove examples of euphemistic or coded language which users may use to circumvent content moderation systems when posting harmful suicide and self-harm content.
Record-Keeping and Review Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace references to ‘17 kinds of priority illegal content’ with ‘18 kinds of priority illegal content’.
Register of Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add evidence published since December 2024 relating to self-harm (p.292-320). • Combine the self-harm and suicide sections by moving the material relating to self-harm that was previously in section 20 to section 15 (pp.291-321) • Add evidence published since December 2024 relating to cyberflashing (p.361-368). • Move the cyberflashing section from section 19 to 18. (pp.361-369).
Risk Assessment Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend Tables 1, 4 and 15 of the Risk Assessment Guidance to include ‘encouraging and assisting suicide or serious self-harm’. (pp.9 ,19, 72). • Amend case studies in Table 16 of Annex 2 to refer to ‘suicide and self-harm’ instead of ‘suicide’ • Amend Tables 1, 4 and 15 of the Risk Assessment Guidance to include ‘cyberflashing’. (pp.9,19, 72). • Replaced references to ‘17 kinds of priority illegal content’ with ‘18 kinds of priority illegal content’.

Risk Profiles

- Update the specific risk factors in the User-to-User Risk Profile to identify the risk factors associated most strongly to encouraging or assisting suicide or serious self-harm. (pp.35 - 43).
- Add a reference to self-harm in Table 9.2 of the Search Risk Profile. (p.47).
- Update the specific risk factors in the User-to-User Risk Profile to identify the risk factors associated most strongly to cyberflashing. (pp.36 - 45).