Addressing the Challenges of a Changing Role: An exploration of the dynamics impacting on the role of the Chief Privacy or Data Protection Officer

"Dynamics" - the study of how things change over time, a pattern of change or growth of an object or force or intensity of a phenomena

The lead privacy or data protection officer has assumed an essential role in delivering privacy compliance. Increasingly new and proposed privacy laws and regulations are impacting that role. Companies must recognize the challenges presented and explore how to respond.

You are invited to take part, in conjunction with regulators and policy makers, in a ground-breaking initiative to assess the impact of the changing responsibilities of lead privacy officers and develop strategies to manage these responsibilities.

The project will examine:

- The extent of current regulatory obligations in privacy laws for named officers to exercise quasisupervisory internal control over data processing and report to regulators;
- Comparative obligations in analogous legislation and the impact of these obligations on behaviour in organisations;
- The proposed changes to the role and obligations of data protection officers under the Draft EU
 Data Protection Regulation (the "Draft Regulation");
- The potential impact of such proposals on existing structures, patterns of internal control and management of privacy, with a focus on the current role of chief privacy officer;
- The pros and cons of appointing a privacy or data protection officer with responsibility for internal controls and external reporting and the mechanisms for dealing with the challenges and opportunities presented by the changed role.

Your participation

This project is accessible to all Centre members.

We will be reaching out to Centre members to set up short interviews to gain insight and expertise. We are also looking for a few volunteers to form a steering group which will provide input to the project and review the workplan and papers.

Involvement in the project will offer the opportunity to:

- Interface with regulators and policy makers in this developing area
- Contribute to forming a shared global understanding of the challenges and opportunities presented by proposed changes to the role, and the development of appropriate responses

Please join us in working on this project.

Project Timeline

- July to September 2013 Project set-up and agreement on first stage research and papers
- September to October 2013 Completion of first stage research and breakfast workshop at the International Commissioners' Conference in Warsaw
- October to November 2013:
 In-depth stakeholder discussions and completion of research papers
- December 2013 Workshop in Brussels
- December 2013 Completion of research papers
- January 2014 Report from the Centre

Project Team

- Project Director Bojana Bellamy, President, Centre for Information Policy Leadership (from September 2013)
- Hunton & Williams team leads: Bridget Treacy, Partner and head of UK Office Hunton & Williams London
- Centre Members Steering Group : [to be confirmed]
- Project Manager: Michelle Marcoot Centre for Information Policy Leadership

If you would like to serve on the steering group or have any questions about the project please contact:

Bojana Bellamy President Centre for Information Policy Leadership +44 (0) 20 7220 5703 bbellamy@hunton.com