

Terrorism Acts Online: request for information

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1. My annual report this year is devoted to the operation of the Terrorism Acts online.
2. There are 3 core topics on which I seek information (via [law@6kbw.com](mailto:law@6kbw.com)). Anyone is welcome and everything is confidential unless you tell me otherwise.

**I. Terrorist Content Online**

Most standards are set by internet services operating overseas (by way of Terms and Conditions, or Community Standards). Does UK terrorism legislation set the right standards (including by criminalising online speech)? Could UK terrorism legislation do more to promote acceptable standards (as it does, for example, by proscription of terrorist groups with an online presence)?

**II. Children**

There has been a significant increase in the number of terrorism-related arrests of children (in respect of all types of terrorist ideology). Much of this is related to internet activity, and many of these children are neuro-divergent and/or suffer from poor mental health. Are there ways of avoiding criminalising children whilst protecting the public?

**III. Investigations**

Investigating terrorism is complicated by encryption, remote storage and the volume of data seized. Is terrorism legislation adequate for investigating terrorism? Are there sufficient safeguards to make sure that personal or privileged information is not accessed unnecessarily, and stored for too long?

Jonathan Hall QC

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