

From: Evan Pickett
To: [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)
Subject: Submission to consultation on the Assistance and Access Bill 2018
Date: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 1:37:53 PM

Dear Minister

I am writing to express my concerns about 'The Assistance and Access Bill 2018'.

I want to keep this short and simple. I understand the desire for law enforcement to access phones and Internet communication, but this bill creates more problems than it solves.

The big issue is that by creating any back door, you are completely removing any ability for consumers to securely communicate. We have seen, time and again, that even if law enforcement are extremely good, and follow all the rules, their systems are vulnerable to hackers. Any back door or side door access to secure data is going to be hacked. This isn't a what-if situation, it is a when situation.

The recent events from Russia, North Korea, Iran and many of our adversaries show that our enemies are incredibly keen to access our data, and they have the sheer manpower to do it. This isn't a personal risk for me, I couldn't care less if you see the dick pics in my WhatsApp. But it sure is for any parliamentarian who is going to be the target of Russian and Korean hacking, and I don't want my parliamentarians black-mailed by our enemies!

We know what happens when we have poor security for communication. Email is getting hacked every day, and it hurts democracy. Not just our democracy, but all democracy. Modern encryption is a mathematical miracle, and the fact that we can securely and easily communicate is one of the few positives about modern communication.

Please consider this. By chasing full-speed after terrorists, you're leaving our rear exposed to Russia and the state powers we really need to be concerned about.

Thank you

Evan Pickett
