

From: James Nichols
To: [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)
Subject: Objections to the The Assistance and Access Bill 2018
Date: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 12:45:59 AM

I am writing to register complaints against the Bill. Broadly speaking my concerns are:

- The possibility for encryption back-doors to be exploited by malicious parties, foreign spies and hackers. I believe this has not been given enough weight, and government interference in privately developed technology with poorly implemented legislation will only decrease online security.
- That this bill will do nothing to stop capable criminals and terrorists who will always have access to open-source encryption.
- There are not sufficient evidence that any investigation has actually been significantly hampered by standard encrypted messaging apps. Examples given thus-far (on the bill's website for instance) include Snapchat and FB Messenger. Both platforms have a long history of aiding police investigation already, why do authorities need further back-door capabilities?
- The potential for journalists and whistle-blowers who want to keep sources and communication private, to be compromised or targeted.

I believe that this bill should be abandoned pending further impartial review of the needs of authorities with concrete evidence towards how modern investigations actually work.

Thank you for your attention,

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