

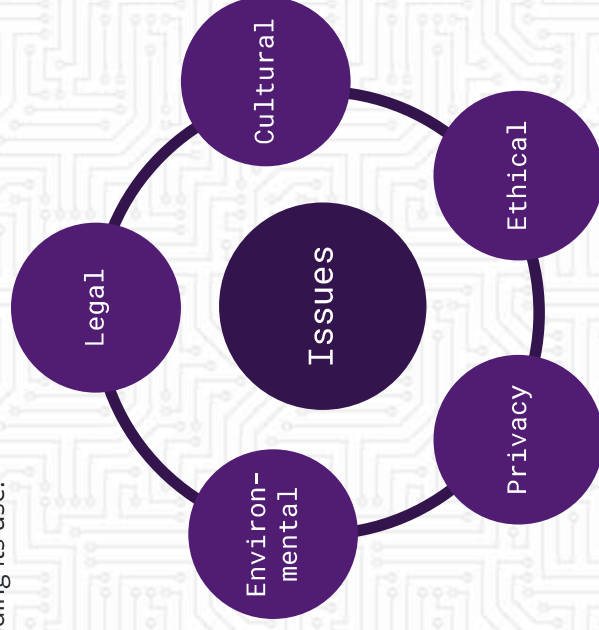
# Component 1: Impacts of digital technology on wider society

## Key terms

Term	Definition
Legal	Rules which a particular country or community recognises as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties.
Cultural	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a society.
Ethical	Relating to beliefs about right and wrong and conforming to standards of conduct.
Privacy	An individual's anonymity and how safe they feel in a location.
Environment	The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates.
Code of ethics / conduct	Defines acceptable behaviour within an organisation.

## Impacts

Digital technology increasingly requires us to consider issues surrounding its use.



## Legal issues

The following legislation has been put in place to govern the use of computer systems.

Legislation	Overview
The Computer Misuse Act (CMA) 1990	Helps combat issues arising from the misuse of computer systems. The Act makes it an offence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>access data without permission, e.g. looking at someone else's files</li> <li>access computer systems without permission, e.g. hacking</li> <li>alter data stored on a computer system without permission, e.g. writing a virus that deliberately deletes data.</li> </ul>
The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000	People have a right to know about the activities of public authorities, unless there is a good reason for them not to have this information. The Act provides public access to information held by public authorities, who are obliged to publish certain information about their activities.
The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000	Regulates the powers of public bodies to carry out surveillance and investigation. It also regulates the interception of communications. The Act provides clear legal guidelines for organisations, such as the security services and the police, to carry out surveillance and access the digital communications of individuals, such as email, telephone calls, text messages etc.
The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018	The GDPR and DPA applies to all 'personal data'. Personal data is classed as any information relating to a person who can be directly or indirectly identified and so it needs to be protected.
Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988	This Act gives the authors of any digital software the right to control the ways in which their work may be used.
Creative Commons (CC) Licensing	This license enables the free distribution of copyrighted work. A CC license is used when an author wants to give other people the right to share, use, and build upon a work that they have created.
Telecommunications Regulations Act 2000	This Act gives organisations the right to monitor communications on their own networks. Previously such interception would have been unlawful unless consent had been given by both the sender and the recipient.