

*These notes refer to the Digital Economy Act 2010  
(c.24) which received Royal Assent on 8 April 2010*

# **DIGITAL ECONOMY ACT 2010**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **BACKGROUND**

3. The communications sector is one of the three largest economic sectors in the UK economy, accounting for around 8% of GDP. In recent times, this sector has undergone significant changes, shaped by the development and use of digital technologies by industry and consumers.
4. It was against this background that *Digital Britain*, the government's investigation into this sector, was launched in autumn 2008. The government published the Digital Britain White Paper, entitled *Digital Britain: Final Report* (Cm 7650) in June 2009. The White Paper made a number of recommendations, some of which required legislation. The Digital Economy Act 2010 takes forward a number of these.