Introduction

Claire Perry MP recently chaired an independent review into whether Internet Service Providers (ISPs) should be required to block adult content by default. The Independent Parliamentary Inquiry into Online Child Protection¹ gave a number of recommendations on actions that the government could undertake in order to ensure that underage children do not access inappropriate content.

We believe that individuals and parents are best suited to parent their own children. They can manage their children's time online and can seek the most appropriate information possible about issues online. Parents may need help in seeking as much information as possibly about how to manage, monitor, and understand how their children get online, use their mobile phone, or what they do while they are online, but ultimately they should be in the driving seat.

The market already provides a large number of solutions that are comprehensive, freely-available and effective. The solutions are device-, software- and networked-based. They offer a range of options, like virus protection and URL filtering, at a variety of prices. A government-mandated filter would be counter-effective in that it would crowd out all of the solutions already out there. The government should support the education and empowering of parents and children alike.

In light of this, we have put together a guide listing already-available software for computers and mobile phones that can be used for monitoring, managing, and protecting children while they use them. Also, we have put together a brief list of ISP and mobile operator information, as well as the two most popular operating systems and the options that they offer. We have a short list of reviews that will help parents review the different software options and their ratings. Finally, we have also put together a brief checklist

for things to look for when considering using software or network level filtering in the home.

The major fixed line ISPs have already agreed to industry self-regulation through which all new customers will receive a choice to have filtering either on or off. This process, called 'Active Choice' will be rolled out for all customers and continue to be the solution that each ISP will implement on their own by asking the question to their customers. Since 2005, the four major mobile phone operators have signed up to a code of practice to self-regulate content inappropriate for under 18 year olds. This has resulted in the Independent Mobile Classification Body² that works to a classification framework and the filter is default on until the customer requests otherwise. Both fixed line ISPs and mobile operators have a wealth of information on their practices along with solutions at a device, software, and network level for child safety so we encourage all parents to content their providers with any questions.

This guide is not comprehensive, but we hope it provides a starting place for parents who, by being empowered by research and information, can make their own decisions for how they choose to be parents to their own children.

¹ http://www.claireperry.org.uk/media/inquiry-into-online-child-protection accessed 13 May 2012.

^{2.} http://www.imcb.org.uk/ accessed 15 May 2012.

Name	Website	Cost
AntiPorn	http://www.tueagles.com/anti-porn/	\$29.97
CyberPatrol	http://www.cyberpatrol.com/	\$39.95
Big Mother	http://www.tupsoft.com/big.htm	\$29.00
Bit Defender	http://www.bitdefender.co.uk/	from £39.99
BlockSmart	http://blocksmartsoftware.com/	free
osecure	http://www.bsecure.com/	\$49.95
Content Barrier	http://www.intego.com/contentbarrier	£34.95
Covenant Eyes	http://www.covenanteyes.com/	from \$8.99/mo
CyberSitter	http://www.solidoak.com/	\$39.95no
Surveiller	http://www.e-surveiller.com/	from \$34.95
Secure	http://www.f-secure.com/	from £39.95/year
FamilyConnect	http://www.familyconnect.com/	\$4.95/mo or \$49.95/year
ambigbrother	http://www.iamiiyconnect.com/	\$29.95
Boss	http://residential.iphantom.com/	\$49.95
mView	http://www.imview.com/	from \$9.99/mo
uniorWatch	http://www.imview.com/	free - up to \$4.99/mo
(9 by Blue Coat	http://www1.k9webprotection.com/	free
Caspersky	http://www.kaspersky.co.uk/	from £39.99/year
Kaspersky KidsWatch	http://www.kidswatch.com/	\$45.95
McAfee Family Protection	http://home.mcafee.com/store/family-protection	£30.99
Net Nanny	http://www.netnanny.co.uk/	from £19.99
Norton Online Family by	https://onlinefamily.norton.com/familysafety/loginStart.fs	Free - premier costs \$29.99/y
Symantec	Tittps://orininerariniy.norton.com/nariniysarety/loginstart.is	Free - premier costs \$29.99/y
OpenDNS	http://www.opendns.com/home-solutions/	\$19.95/yr
Dptenetpc	http://www.optenetpc.com/	\$39.95
Panda	http://www.pandasecurity.com/homeusers/solutions/global-protection/	\$91.99
Parental Control Bar	http://www.parentalcontrolbar.org/	free
PC Pandora	http://www.pcpandora.com/	\$69.95
PC Tattletale	http://www.pctattletale.com/	£39.71
Puresight	http://www.puresight.com/	from \$5.99/mono
Retna Studios Spy	http://www.retinax.com/	from £29.52/3 mo
Safe Eyes by McAfee	http://www.internetsafety.com/safe-eyes-parental-control-software.php	from \$49.95/year
Safe4Kidz	http://www.safe4kidz.com/	£14.99
Sentry	http://www.sentryparentalcontrols.com/	from \$2.99/mo
SpectorPro	http://www.spectorsoft.com/products/	£76.16 yes
otal Defense	http://www.totaldefense.com/	from £9.99/mo
Frend Micro Online Guardian	http://www.trendmicro.co.uk/products/online-guardian/index.html	£29.95
Web of Trust	http://www.mywot.com/	free
Web Watcher	http://www.webwatchernow.com/	\$97.00
Zone Alarm	http://www.zonealarm.com/	from \$19.99

Operating Systems				
Microsoft Portal	Online	Safety	, ,	Includes parental controls for Xbox and connect as well as operating systems

Apple OS X	http://www.apple.com/uk/findouthow/mac/#parentalcontrols	
Apple iOS (mobile devices)	http://support.apple.com/kb/HT4213	
Apple iTunes	http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1904	

Search Engines		
Google	https://www.google.com/preferences?hl=en	Safe Search preferences
Bing	http://www.bing.com/account/ general?ru=http%3a%2f%2fwww.bing. com%3a80%2f&FORM=SEFD	Safe Search preferences

ISPs		
Be Broadband	https://help.bethere.co.uk/help/technical/modem_firewall	through firewall settings on router
BT Family Protection	http://apps.btcomms.com/btfamilyprotection/Invalid_ BTBBConnection.aspx	McAfee software only available to view if a current BT customer
O2 broadband	http://service.o2.co.uk/IQ/SRVS/CGI-BIN/WEBCGI.EXE/,/?S t=18,E=0000000004996235523,K=5531,Sxi=0,T=guruC ase,VARSET_COBJID=24082,Problem=Obj(24082)	McAfee software
Orange broadband	http://help.orange.co.uk/orangeuk/support/personal/online-safety-and-security	McAfee software
	http://www1.orange.co.uk/safety/	Orange safety portal
PlusNet Protect	http://www.plus.net/addons/protect/	McAfee software
Sky	http://www.sky.com/helpcentre/broadband/security-centre/	McAfee software
TalkTalk HomeSafe	http://sales.talktalk.co.uk/product/homesafe	network level filtering
Virgin Media Parental Controls	http://my.virginmedia.com/discover/broadband/your-broadband/protect-family/parental-controls/	Virgin Media Security

Mobile phone		
EverythingEverywhere	through Orange and T Mobile sites	
O2 parental controls	http://www.o2.co.uk/support/generalhelp/howdoi/safetycontrolandaccess/parentalcontrol	automatically on
Orange	http://help.orange.co.uk/orangeuk/support/personal/mobile-safety-and-security	automatically on
	http://www1.orange.co.uk/safety/	Orange safety portal
T Mobile	http://www.t-mobile.co.uk/help-and-advice/phone-support/content-lock/	automatically on
TalkTalk Mobile	http://sales.talktalk.co.uk/products/mobile/faq/mobile.html#E11	automatically on
Three	http://support.three.co.uk/srvs/cgi-bin/webisapi.dll?command=new,kb=mobile,ts=mobile,t=article,varset_cat=internetapps,varset_subcat=3582,case=obj(3827),varset_username=Mobile:mobileUser?s_search=helpsearch	automatically on for PAYG
Virgin Mobile		No information found
Vodafone	http://help.vodafone.co.uk/system/selfservice.co ntroller?CONFIGURATION=1000&PARTITION_ ID=1&CMD=BROWSE_TOPIC&USERTYPE=1&LANGU AGE=en&COUNTRY=us&TOPIC_ID=1034&PARENT_ TOPIC_ID=1021&SOURCE_FORM=TOPIC_ TREE&DISPLAY=SUBTOPICARTICLES	automatically on

Consumer Reviews

CNET Download.com	http://download.cnet.com/windows/parental-control/3150-27064_4-0.html	(check download products - a number are no longer supported or website no longer exists)
Consumer Reports	http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/magazine/2012/06/security-software-review/index.htm	Jun-12
Consumer Research	http://www.consumersearch.com/parental-control-software	Mar-12
PC Mag recommendations	http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2346997,00.asp	
PC Mag reviews	http://www.pcmag.com/category2/0,2806,1639158,00.asp	
Which	http://www.which.co.uk/baby-and-child/child-safety-at-home/guides/parental-control-software/what-parental-controls-do-i-need/	

Appendix: Items to consider

Software programs for computers, mobiles, laptops, and other mobile devices provide a variety of options for a variety of prices. We recommend that you look at ratings, reviews, and personal needs when thinking about what software to use. Below is a useful checklist when thinking about all of these issues.

- 1. Is there a web filter where you can add websites to be blocked?
- 2. Is there a web monitor that tracks sites visited?
- 3. Does the software provide a time manager that prevents use after a certain amount of time?
- 4. Is there an auto alert function so that the parent or guardian is notified when certain sites are visited or certain actions are performed?
- 5. Is there a safe search function that allows for the locking of safe search functions on sites like Google and Bing? Can certain keywords be blocked from being searched on?
- 6. Does contact management exist so that known contacts can be added to a safe list?
- 7. Is there a way to block or prevent private information dissemination?
- 8. Is there monitoring for all activity on social networking sites?
- 9. Is there the ability to block or monitor email through either a web based or computer based email system?
- 10. Is there an Instant Messenger monitor and block system?
- 11. Does the software provide the ability to capture scene images?
- 12. Is there a blocking mechanism for the download and use of Peer to Peer (p2p) networking sites?
- 13. Is there a game rating enforcement system?

- 14. Is there a multi-user account system that allows for the use of multiple accounts with differing options for each account? (ie - two children of different ages)
- 15. Is the software compatible for different operating systems? What about mobile systems like IOS and Android? Is the software compatible with game consoles and tablets as well?