I would be obliged if you would record my submission for any proposals that incorporate the above technology. I confirm that I am happy for my name to be published as you deem appropriate.

I regret to inform you that the concept of facial recognition technology appals me as I consider it the ultimate state intrusion into the lives of members of the public trying to go about their lawful business. I already feel that the battery of CCTV cameras that follow me around is excessive and this is compounded by the majority of the population carrying smart phones that are effectively covert recording devices.

My particular concern with facial recognition technology is that it could well start as a means to identify criminals but could then be expanded beyond its initial remit to target individual’s movements for more nefarious purposes, such as political reasons. Additionally, I believe that it would be possible for facial images to be intercepted and changed in the same manner that criminals presently intercept and clone banks’ and solicitors email accounts to obtain money from victims. Were this to happen, you could have innocent people being charged with crimes they did not commit because their face had been swapped with the perpetrator’s whilst the police continued to insist the system was fool-proof.

This whole concept is too open to abuse and no amount of assurances from those promoting the technology will ever convince me otherwise as banks were saying exactly the same a few years ago about the security of online banking. As you will know, this has since been proven to be easily hacked into as have other large databases containing confidential information.

Brian Griffiths
4 October 2019