

Capita PLC
65 Gresham Street
London, England
EC2V7NQ

Delivered by hand to the above address

7 November 2023

Dear Capita,

We are writing to follow up on our letter of 11 May 2023 addressed to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].¹ In that letter we drew their urgent attention to the serious human rights, data protection and mental health implications of the use of GPS tracking by the Home Office, delivered in part under a contract with Capita. We noted the research², complaints³ and litigation⁴ that are challenging this dehumanising practice, and shared a number of testimonies of people who are tagged. We called on Capita to stop providing electronic monitoring services to the Home Office and to commit to reinforcing its human rights due diligence practices when bidding for government contracts.

We have not received a response from your company. In the meantime:

- Over 200 members of the public have written to Capita to express concerns about Capita's provision of electronic monitoring services to the Home Office;⁵
- The number of individuals fitted with a GPS tracker increased by 67% in just a year, largely due to their major roll-out to more immigration bail cohorts;⁶
- The Expansion Pilot to monitor people who arrived via so-called "unnecessary and dangerous" routes was extended by a further 6 months because "[t]he data collected by the 12 month stage did not provide sufficient evidence to establish whether the use

¹ BID, MO and PI Letter to Capita PLC [REDACTED] (11 May 2023), <https://privacyinternational.org/sites/default/files/2023-07/11.05.23 - BID, MO and PI Letter to Capita PLC %5BREDACTED%5D.pdf>.

² Bail for Immigration Detainees, Medical Justice and Public Law Project, 'Every Move You Make: The Human Cost of GPS Tagging in the Immigration System' (October 2022), <https://www.biduk.org/articles/research-reveals-inhumane-effects-of-gps-tagging-on-migrants>.

³ Privacy International, 'Privacy International files complaints against GPS tagging of migrants in the UK' (17 August 2022), <https://privacyinternational.org/news-analysis/4941/privacy-international-files-complaints-against-gps-tagging-migrants-uk>.

⁴ Duncan Lewis, 'Permission to Apply for Judicial Review Granted for Duncan Lewis Challenge to GPS tracking by the Home Office' (31 March 2023), [https://www.duncanlewis.co.uk/news/Permission-to-Apply-for-Judicial-Review-Granted-for-Duncan-Lewis-Challenge-to-GPS-tracking-by-the-Home-Office-\(31-March-2023\).html](https://www.duncanlewis.co.uk/news/Permission-to-Apply-for-Judicial-Review-Granted-for-Duncan-Lewis-Challenge-to-GPS-tracking-by-the-Home-Office-(31-March-2023).html).

⁵ <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/capitalsurveillance>

⁶ Ministry of Justice, 'Electronic Monitoring Statistics Publication, England and Wales: June 2023' (20 July 2023), <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electronic-monitoring-statistics-publication-june-2023/electronic-monitoring-statistics-publication-england-and-wales-june-2023>.

of electronic monitoring is an effective tool for contact management or whether some cohorts are more suited to this form of contact management”;⁷ and

- The Illegal Migration Bill became law, effectively removing all legal routes to asylum in the UK in contravention of the UK’s international human rights law obligations,⁸ and presaging a considerable increase in the number of immigration detainees and therefore of the Electronic Monitoring caseload.

As the UK Home Office continues to extend its unnecessary and vindictive tracking of migrants, Capita’s provision of electronic monitoring services is used to put human rights and health at risk.

Our demands

- (1) **Listen to people who are tagged.** We are asking Capita to engage with the real stories of people subject to electronic monitoring. Please watch these 2 short videos of actors sharing the real testimonies of people who have been tagged, demonstrating the impact of GPS tracking on people:



Link: pvcy.org/MigrantTracking1



Link: pvcy.org/MigrantTracking2

- (2) **Meet with someone impacted by your work.** Capita should strive to be accountable to the people most impacted by its work. We ask that you meet with one of BID’s clients who was tagged, and hear his story and demands – please indicate your availability in the coming weeks and we will be happy to arrange an online meeting with him (on the basis of anonymity);
- (3) **Stop providing electronic monitoring services to the Home Office, and commit to reinforcing your human rights due diligence practices when bidding for government contracts.**

⁷ Home Office, ‘Immigration bail conditions: Electronic monitoring (EM) expansion pilot Version 2.0’ (23 June 2023), https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1165035/Immigration_bail_conditions_-_Electronic_Monitoring_EM_Expansion_pilot.pdf.

⁸ UNHCR, ‘UK Illegal Migration Bill: UN Refugee Agency and UN Human Rights Office warn of profound impact on human rights and international refugee protection system’ (18 July 2023), <https://www.unhcr.org/news/press-releases/uk-illegal-migration-bill-un-refugee-agency-and-un-human-rights-office-warn>.



We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

**Bail for Immigration Detainees
Migrants Organise
Privacy International**