1.6 ETHICAL, LEGAL, CULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Ethical

- Ethics is about what is considered right and wrong by society.
- If a company does not behave in an ethical way it might make their customers lose trust in them.
- Issues such as cyberbullying, trolling and the use of social media can raise ethical issues.
- **Privacy:** Users trust companies to keep their data private so companies need to take care of it
- **Censorship:** is when a country or organisation controls what people can access on the internet.
- **Surveillance:** surveillance is when someone is monitored using technology.

Legal

- **Data Protection Act:** controls how personal data is used. Eg: it has to be accurate and up to date, kept secure, should not be kept longer than needed
- **Freedom of information Act:** gives the public the right to see information about public organisations
- **Computer Misuse Act:** makes it illegal to hack a network or create a virus.
- **Copyright, Designs & Patents Act:** protects things you have created from being used without permission
- **Creative Commons:** lets people release their work to be used and shared legally and sometimes modified.

Stakeholders:
The people or groups affected
by a particular situation

Environmental

- Computing devices contain raw materials
- Devices use lots of energy when turned on
- **Ewaste** is when we throw away devices because they are broken or because we want to upgrade
- Ewaste can lead to pollution
- The **Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)** directive has rules for how devices should be disposed so that they're recycled/disposed of safely
- Devices can also have a positive impact on the environment – eg video calls rather than travelling a long distance causing pollution.

Cultural

- One cultural issue in computing is the **Digital Divide**. Some people do have access to technology, others don't
- Not having access to technology can be a disadvantage as it limits access to information, online learning, online banking, communication etc.
- The digital divide can be due to people not having enough money to buy devices or due to living in places without internet access, or not having the skills to use the technologies available.
- Technology has also impacted how businesses run as many now use online shops and services