



Office of the Director of  
**Telecommunications  
Regulation**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*  
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### **REGULATOR CONSULTS ON ACCESS TO MOBILE NETWORKS**

In a consultation paper published today (15<sup>th</sup> May 2000), the Director of Telecommunications Regulation, Etain Doyle raises the issue of new players entering the mobile telephony market by gaining access to the networks of mobile network operators.

“The issue of access to mobile networks by service providers and other types of players is being addressed throughout Europe. In some countries these types of players already exist and are providing customers with greater choice of provider for mobile services”, the Regulator said.

“Given the stage of development of the Irish mobile telephony market, now is a good time for us to take a closer look at this issue. We need to determine the benefits this type of development can bring to the Irish mobile consumer - in terms of price, choice and quality.”

The paper seeks views on various forms of access including the resale of mobile airtime, independent service provision, indirect access and mobile virtual network operators. It considers the benefits that these players can bring to the Irish consumer, how they might stimulate competition, and the regulatory framework within which they might operate. The Regulator looks forward to receiving a wide range of views in assisting her decision on key regulatory action in this area.

**ODTR 00/32 - “The Regulatory Framework for Access in the Mobile Market – Consultation Paper”** can be viewed on the ODTR web-site (<http://www.odtr.ie>). The consultation period concludes on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

**ENDS**

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