



Media Release - 16 April 2010

ComReg consults on its draft Strategy Statement for 2010-2012

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today published its draft Strategy Statement for the electronic communications sector for 2010 – 2012, as required under the 2002 Communications Regulation Act. The draft Strategy Statement (ComReg Document 10/31) is available to download on the ComReg website www.comreg.ie. Comments are invited by 14 May, 2010.

The aim of this Strategy Statement, the third Strategy Statement that ComReg has produced, is to provide a robust and transparent framework for setting priorities and workplans over the next two years. It is published, in draft, as part of ComReg's commitment to open consultation and to obtain feedback from consumer interests, the communications industry, and other key stakeholders.

Introducing the draft Strategy Statement, ComReg Chairperson, Alex Chisholm said:

“ComReg, as the industry regulator, will continue to shape the development of this market by promoting competition, facilitating investment and innovation and protecting and informing consumers, in line with our statutory role. Precisely how we do this will be affected by the many changes occurring in the markets we regulate.

“Rapid changes in technology, consumer behaviour, and industry structure have brought the communications industry to a significant juncture. Operators are experiencing major increases in the demand for bandwidth at a time of growing price competition and falling revenues and margins. Further major investment will be needed to upgrade fixed and wireless networks to next generation technologies.

“The policy and legislative context for our work is also evolving with the new EU common regulatory framework for electronic communications, new legislation passed on premium rate services and due later this year for the postal market, and recent Government policy statements in relation to economic regulation and the Smart Economy.

“ComReg needs a forward-looking Strategy to ensure we continue to focus our efforts appropriately within this fast-changing environment. We welcome contributions from all stakeholders.”

ENDS

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