

ComReg issues an Opinion of Non-Compliance to Vodafone Ireland Limited in relation to porting charges

Information Notice

 Reference:
 22/21

 Date:
 14/03/2022

- On 18 November 2021, ComReg notified Vodafone Ireland Limited ("Vodafone"), trading as Clear Mobile, of a finding of non-compliance with Vodafone's obligations under ComReg Decision D05/07¹ and ComReg Decision D01/09².
- The notification of non-compliance was made in accordance with Regulation 31 of the European Communities (Electronic Communications Networks and Services)(Universal Services and User's Rights) Regulations 2011 ("Universal Service Regulations").
- 3. The notification of non-compliance notified Vodafone of a finding that in respect of Clear Mobile it had not complied with its obligations set out in ComReg Decisions D05/07 and D01/09 as it had effectively imposed a direct monthly charge on certain customers to port their number to Clear Mobile.
- 4. Vodafone had until 20 December 2021 to take specified remedial action with regard to its non-compliance and to state its views on the notification.
- 5. Vodafone's response outlined certain remedial measures and other commitments. In summary:
 - i. Vodafone will not impose a direct charge or any price difference on any customer that wishes to port their number as opposed to a customer not porting their number;
 - ii. Vodafone will have the ability to offer promotional discount to customers moving service provider from certain networks and not others but additional charges will not be levied on a customer as a result of a request to port a number; and,
 - iii. Vodafone will contact and discount any customer that paid €14.99 to €12.99 on the offer that is subject to this case.
- 6. Vodafone confirmed that it has now contacted and refunded the affected customers.
- 7. Having considered Vodafone's response and the proposed remedies and commitments made, ComReg has nonetheless formed the Opinion that Vodafone was non-compliant with the relevant provisions of ComReg Decision D05/07 and ComReg Decision D01/09.

¹ Response to Consultation and Specification on Number Portability in the Fixed and Mobile Sectors ("ComReg Decision D05/07")

² Response to Consultation and Final Specification "Setting Maximum Fixed and Mobile Number Porting Charge" ("ComReg Decision D01/09")

- 8. Having taken account of Vodafone's response and its remedial actions to address the issues raised in the notification, ComReg intends to take no further action in respect of this matter.
- 9. ComReg will continue to monitor compliance by all undertakings with their obligations under ComReg Decision D05/07 and ComReg Decision D01/09 and other consumer legislation and, where necessary, will investigate any matters arising.