

A8. Notification of Ofcom's decision to modify the National Telephone Numbering Plan

Notification of modification of the National Telephone Numbering Plan under section 60 of the Act

Background

1. On 27 October 2020, Ofcom issued a notification pursuant to section 60 of the Act, to modify the provisions of the Numbering Plan (the “**Notification**”).
2. Ofcom invited representations on the proposals set out in the Notification and accompanying consultation document by 30 November 2020.
3. By virtue of section 60(5) of the Act, Ofcom may give effect to the proposals with respect to which it has published a notification under section 60(3), with or without modifications, where Ofcom has:
 - a) considered every representation about the proposals made to Ofcom within the period specified in the notification; and
 - b) has regard to every international obligation of the United Kingdom (if any) which has been notified to them for this purpose by the Secretary of State.
4. Ofcom has considered every representation made to it in respect of the proposals set out in the Notification; and the Secretary of State has not notified Ofcom of any international obligation of the United Kingdom for this purpose.

Decision

5. Ofcom has decided to modify the Numbering Plan. The modifications are set out in the Schedule to this Notification.
6. Ofcom's reasons for reaching this decision, and the effect of the decision, are set out in the explanatory statement accompanying this Notification.
7. Ofcom considers that the modifications comply with the requirements of section 60(2) of the Act.
8. Ofcom has considered and acted in accordance with its general duty as to telephone numbering functions under section 63 of the Act and its duties under sections 3 and 4 of the Act.
9. The modifications:
 - a) set out in Part 1 of the Schedule shall enter into force on IP completion day; and
 - b) set out in Part 2 of the Schedule shall enter into force on 17 December 2021.
10. In this Notification:
 - a) “**the Act**” means the Communications Act 2003;

- b) “**IP completion day**” has the meaning specified in the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020;
- c) “**Ofcom**” means the Office of Communications; and
- d) “**Numbering Plan**” means the National Telephone Numbering Plan published by Ofcom pursuant to section 56(1) of the Act, and amended from time to time.¹

- 11. Words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them in this Notification, and otherwise any word or expression shall have the same meaning as it has in the Act.
- 12. For the purposes of interpreting this Notification: (i) headings and titles shall be disregarded; and (ii) the Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply as if this Notification were an Act of Parliament.
- 13. The Schedule to this Notification shall form part of this Notification.

Signed by



Selina Chadha

Director of Connectivity

A person authorized by Ofcom under paragraph 18 of the Schedule to the Office of Communications Act 2002.

17 December 2020

¹ The current version of the National Telephone Numbering Plan is available [here](#).

Schedule: Modifications to the National Telephone Numbering Plan

The modifications that Ofcom has decided to make to the Numbering Plan are set out below, shown in highlighted underlined text and strikethrough text.

PART 1

The following changes shall take effect on IP completion day.

In paragraph 1 of the “Definitions and Interpretation” section, the following amendment shall be made to the definition of “Harmonised number for harmonised services of social value (116XXX numbers)”:

Existing Definition	Revised Definition	Marked up version showing changes (shown in highlighted underlined text)
<p>“Harmonised number for harmonised services of social value (116XXX numbers)” means a Type B Access Code used to provide a service meeting a common description on the same 116XXX number throughout European Union Member States;”</p>	<p>“Harmonised number for harmonised services of social value (116XXX numbers)” means a Type B Access Code used to provide a service meeting a common description on the same 116XXX number throughout European Union Member States and the United Kingdom;”</p>	<p>“Harmonised number for harmonised services of social value (116XXX numbers)” means a Type B Access Code used to provide a service meeting a common description on the same 116XXX number throughout European Union Member States <u>and the United Kingdom</u>;”</p>

PART 2

The following changes shall take effect on 17 December 2021.

In paragraph 1 of the “Definitions and Interpretation” section, the following amendments shall be made to the definitions of “Carrier Pre-Selection”; “Consumer”; “Indirect Access” and “Pre-selected Provider”:

Existing Definition	Revised Definition	Marked up version showing changes (shown in highlighted underlined text and strikethrough text)
<p>“‘Carrier Pre-Selection’ means a facility which allows a Subscriber to whom a Publicly</p>	<p>“‘Carrier Pre-Selection’ means a facility which allows a Subscriber to whom a Voice</p>	<p>“‘Carrier Pre-Selection’ means a facility which allows a Subscriber to whom a Publicly</p>

Existing Definition	Revised Definition	Marked up version showing changes (shown in highlighted underlined text and strikethrough text)
<p>Available Telephone Service is provided by means of a Public Communications Network to select which Pre-selected Provider of such Services provided wholly or partly by means of that Network is the Pre-selected Provider he wishes to use to carry his calls by designating in advance the selection that is to apply on every occasion when there has been no selection of Provider by use of a Telephone Number;”</p>	<p>Communications Service is provided by means of a Public Communications Network to select which Pre-selected Provider of such Services provided wholly or partly by means of that Network is the Pre-selected Provider he wishes to use to carry his calls by designating in advance the selection that is to apply on every occasion when there has been no selection of Provider by use of a Telephone Number;”</p>	<p>Available Telephone Service <u>Voice Communications Service</u> is provided by means of a Public Communications Network to select which Pre-selected Provider of such Services provided wholly or partly by means of that Network is the Pre-selected Provider he wishes to use to carry his calls by designating in advance the selection that is to apply on every occasion when there has been no selection of Provider by use of a Telephone Number;”</p>
<p>“‘Consumer’ means any natural person who uses or requests a Public Electronic Communications Service for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business or profession;”</p>	<p>“‘Consumer’ means any natural person who uses or requests a Public Electronic Communications Service for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business, craft or profession;”</p>	<p>“‘Consumer’ means any natural person who uses or requests a Public Electronic Communications Service for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business, <u>craft</u> or profession;”</p>
<p>“‘Indirect Access’ means a facility which allows a Subscriber to whom a Publicly Available Telephone Service is provided by means of a Public Communications Network to select which such Service provided wholly or partly by means of that Network is the service he wishes to use by the use of a Telephone Number on each separate occasion on which a selection is made;”</p>	<p>“‘Indirect Access’ means a facility which allows a Subscriber to whom a Voice Communications Service is provided by means of a Public Communications Network to select which such Service provided wholly or partly by means of that Network is the service he wishes to use by the use of a Telephone Number on each separate occasion on which a selection is made;”</p>	<p>“‘Indirect Access’ means a facility which allows a Subscriber to whom a Publicly Available Telephone Service <u>Voice Communications Service</u> is provided by means of a Public Communications Network to select which such Service provided wholly or partly by means of that Network is the service he wishes to use by the use of a Telephone Number on each</p>

Existing Definition	Revised Definition	Marked up version showing changes (shown in highlighted underlined text and strikethrough text)
		separate occasion on which a selection is made;”
<p>“‘Pre-selected Provider’ means a provider of a Public Communications Network who has notified the Dominant Provider that it is able and willing to provide Carrier Pre-Selection to Subscribers to whom the Dominant Provider provides Publicly Available Telephone Services;”</p>	<p>“‘Pre-selected Provider’ means a provider of a Public Communications Network who has notified the Dominant Provider that it is able and willing to provide Carrier Pre-Selection to Subscribers to whom the Dominant Provider provides Voice Communications Services;”</p>	<p>“‘Pre-selected Provider’ means a provider of a Public Communications Network who has notified the Dominant Provider that it is able and willing to provide Carrier Pre-Selection to Subscribers to whom the Dominant Provider provides Publicly Available Telephone Services <u>Voice Communications Services</u>;”.</p>