

Welsh Assembly Government

Dougal Scott

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Eich cyf . Your ref Ein cyf . Our ref

Dear Mr Scott

Consultation on undertakings offered by British Telecommunications plc in lieu of a reference under Part 4 of the enterprise Act 2002

I am providing the Welsh Assembly Government's response to Ofcom's consultation on BT's undertakings. We would like to thank Ofcom for the opportunity to provide a response on this issue.

We agree that the packages of undertakings offered by BT is appropriate to address the difficulties identified within its strategic review of telecommunications and that they offer as comprehensive a solution as is reasonable and practicable at this time.

We agree that by accepting these undertakings you will be ensuring a more comprehensive solution than that which could be achieved by a series of interventions under the Competition Act 1998.

We agree that the creation of the ASD should address the adverse competition effects arising from BT's market power. We would hope that the necessary re-branding and creation of the ASD will take place as soon as is reasonably practicable.

We believe that in accepting these undertakings, Ofcom is ensuring that consumers and businesses in Wales will benefit from the more competitive environment that we envisage will be created.

Jason D. Thomas Broadband Wales Policy Manager

