

Dame Melanie Dawes Chief Executive Email: <u>ChiefExecutive@ofcom.org.uk</u>

6 February 2022

Dear Philip,

Philip Jansen

[By email only]

Chief Executive, BT Group

Thank you for calling me last week on your comments reported in the Financial Times. Although I understand that you consider that you were not correctly reported, reading the article caused us significant concern.

I would like to stress that Ofcom remains committed to our strategy of network competition, as established in the wholesale fixed telecoms market review. The rules we implemented in that review ensure a level playing field for all fibre investors, constraining BT's market power to ensure that future success will be determined by competition on the merits. Were it to become apparent that BT is able nonetheless to distort competition in the market, we would not hesitate to take regulatory action to address this.

Consistent with our duties, we closely monitor market outcomes and, in this regard, our Equinox 2 consultation of last week explains that we are currently gathering information on whether Openreach's practice of repeatedly amending its FTTP prices could act as a barrier to althet entry and expansion.

I would also remind you of the commitments BT made more broadly to fair competition and the work undertaken by the Openreach Monitoring Unit, which includes oversight of issues arising out of the market review framework. We are in a key period for fibre investment and we will be vigilant to ensure that all involved stick to the letter and spirit of the rules. We will publish our next Monitoring Report in June.

Yours sincerely,

Malai Dan

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