

**MINUTES OF THE TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY SEVENTH MEETING OF  
THE OFCOM BOARD HELD ON 9 MARCH 2017 IN LONDON**

**Present**

Patricia Hodgson*	Chairman
Sheila Noakes*	Deputy Chairman
Sharon White	Chief Executive
Lynne Brindley*	Member
Graham Mather*	Member
Ben Verwaayen*	Member
Nick Pollard*	Member
Jonathan Oxley	Executive Member and Group Director, Competition
Steve Unger	Executive Member and Group Director, Strategy, International, Technology and Economists

\*Attended by telephone.

**Apologies**

None

**In attendance**

Polly Weitzman	General Counsel
Steve Gettings	Corporation Secretary
Rob Jex	Assistant Secretary to the Corporation

Other Ofcom Colleagues

**Digital Communications Review: Openreach Voluntary Notification - Board Paper 43(17)**

1. The Board discussed and commented on the contents of BT's revised voluntary proposals to increase Openreach's independence through legal separation. The Board **APPROVED** the recommendation set out in Board Paper 43(17) not to proceed with a formal regulatory solution for Openreach reform on the basis that BT's revised voluntary notification under Section 89C of the Communications Act sufficiently met the competition concerns identified as part of Ofcom's Strategic Review of Digital Communications. It was **AGREED** that the Chief Executive, General Counsel and Group Director, Strategy, International, Technology and Economists should review the final version of BT's notification, and, subject to the satisfactory conclusion of that review, Ofcom should announce, on 10 March that it had concluded a voluntary settlement with BT on Openreach reform.
2. The Board thanked Ofcom colleagues for their professionalism, cohesion and collaboration during the protracted negotiation process with BT over the past 18 months.

**Date of the next meeting**

3. The next Board meeting will be held on 14 March 2017.