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Dear Mark

Openreach Commitment to Deploy Fibre to 3.2m Premises in Area 3

Thank you for your letter of 8 March 2021.

We welcome your confirmation that Openreach is not proposing to change its commitment of 26 June 2020, to deploy FTTP to at least 3.2m premises in Area 3 by the end of 2025/26, despite the changes to Area 3 since our January 2020 consultation, as set out in my email of 8th February 2021.

We have always recognised that there is a risk that factors beyond Openreach's control may mean it is unable to fully meet its commitment. We acknowledge that the changes to Area 3 and the impacts you have identified will increase this risk.

If Openreach continues to plan to build to 3.2m premises in Area 3 by end of 2025/26 but despite its best efforts falls short of meeting the commitment in full, whether as a result of the change to Area 3 or for other reasons outside of Openreach's reasonable control, we would not expect this to change our future approach to price regulation in Area 3.

Yours sincerely,



David Clarkson