

Telephony USO Team Ofcom Riverside House London SF1 9HA

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Removing fax from the universal service obligations on BT and KCOM

We write to support Ofcom's proposal to remove fax from the universal service obligations by amending the definition of 'Telephony Services' in the universal service conditions, removing reference to facsimile transmission.

As part of our ongoing engagement with DCMS and Ofcom on the move toward All-IP, we have been clear that the obligation to provide fax should be removed. Ofcom sets out in this consultation the technical barriers for providing fax caused by the move to IP voice services. We would add that the broader move to IP voice and broadband services offer more efficient ways of delivering services previously provided by fax.

We are grateful to Ofcom for its cooperation on removing the fax obligation in the Telephony USO. Given the underlying legislation has now been changed to remove the obligation, we believe that the proposal to change the universal service conditions as set out is objectively justifiable, proportionate, and transparent.

BT Group

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