

Thank you for the opportunity to respond concerning the design of a broadband universal service obligation. My comments are:

From the Consumers point of view the implementation of a BB USO should ensure:

1. Any residential or business consumer, in any part of the UK, to have the right to request and receive, within an agreed date or 30 days, a Broadband Internet access service which delivers at least 30 Bits when required by the customer and the service being demanded at the time.
2. The price of the service is non-discriminatory to location.
3. The availability of service should be greater than x% of the time.

From the supply side the obligation should ensure:

1. an obligation on the SMP local fixed telecom infrastructure or wireless (Mobile or fixed) provider, to provide the infrastructure required for an SP to deliver the BB internet service OR to make a contribution into a USO Fund.
2. Planning Regulations require developers of:
  - a. residential or commercial buildings to include ducting from an external box to a minimum number of strategic locations within the building.
  - b. roads to provide ducting and man holes for shared telecoms occupancy
3. There is a BB USO fund which can be bid for by any provider

Consideration should be given to the provision of flexible BB on demand services enabling customers to have a speed commensurate with the service being used.

Consideration should be given to ensuring there is responsible provision of services and services demanding high speed internet are not used unless absolutely necessary and certainly not for mass marketing.