

Title:

Mr

Forename:

J. P.

Surname:

Gilliver

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:

No

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

(In the published PDF of the consultation, two parts of table 2 have not made it [top right box and bottom of second column]. And at the bottom of this consultation, "To help prevent spam, please type the words you see below." actually has no captcha!)

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It is difficult given the basically regulatory (and thus, to most people, boring, I fear) function of a body like OfCom, but wider public awareness is I think desirable: perhaps just the odd TV advert and the occasional page in the print media? (Like the ASA used to do?)

Question 1:Are there areas of Ofcom's overall strategic approaches and purposes (outlined in paragraphs 2.4 to 2.10 above) that may need to change?:

The "interests of consumers and citizens" are of course sometimes contradictory between various groups; in particular, the spectrum management activities of OfCom have recently shown a tendency to operate against the interests of those with least voice, at least as regards obliging them to replace equipment (by reallocating spectrum and changing the terms - including power limits - of the use thereof).

Question 2: What are the issues and areas that should form Ofcom's priorities or major work areas in 2015/16?:

One - though whether a _major_ one or not I'm not sure - is the application of pressure on/to the providing companies on the matter of broadband at the lower end of the market; ignoring superfast, FTTH, and other such desirables, there should be more effort aimed at the universal availability of a service of at least 2 and ideally 5 or 6 megabits of speed, and ideally real competition in this area, in all geographical areas.

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Another you might address is the locking of mobile 'phone hardware - ideally at all, but at least any refusal to unlock at contract end.

Question 3: Are there any specific areas for deregulation or simplification in the coming year?:

The universality of the postal service should _not_ be subject to any relaxing: it is already fragile.

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(It is actually difficult to think of _any_ area I feel should be deregulated/simplified! Perhaps equipment with a range below 5 to 10 metres: the interference aspects need to retain control, but perhaps the modes of operation can be deregulated.)