

Additional comments:

The use of the 0500 number range for the Freephone regime has never been a particular favorite of ours, indeed we think that its introduction all those years ago contributed to the confusion to customers about the numbering schemes and there attributes. So it is high on our list of getting the UK's telephone numbering services cleaned up, simplified and more clearly priced. Hopefully calls from Mobiles and other sources to Freephone numbers will, as is already planned, be free and be without confusion.

Question 5.1: Do you agree with the assessment criteria we have used for our analysis, in particular the two additional criteria we have identified as relevant?..

Yes

Question 5.2: Do you agree with our assessment of the options for the 0500 range? In particular, do you agree with our preferred option of withdrawing the 0500 range? If not, please explain why.:

Yes

Question 5.3: Do you have any comments on the analysis presented on the costs and benefits of our preferred option? Please provide evidence to support your comments.:

No

Question 6.1: Do you support a longer implementation period of 24 months for the withdrawal of 0500 numbers? Or, do you consider that 18 months would be a preferable timescale for this withdrawal? Please explain your reasoning as well as providing any evidence to support your view.:

No, stick to the quickest possible timescales, this reduces the overall cost for the implementation of the changes and keeps the activity and media coverage high.

Question 6.2: Do you have any other comments on our proposed approach to the withdrawal of the 0500 range and withdrawal of 0500 number allocations? Do you have any suggestions on making consumers and service providers aware of this change?:

Question 6.3: Are there any other implementation issues which need to be taken into account?: