

## Your response

Question	Your response
<p><b>Question 1:</b> Do you have any comments on Ofcom's proposed Work Plan for 2026/27?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>This response solely focuses on the Scottish Government's interests in relation to digital connectivity.</p> <p><u>Mobile Connectivity</u></p> <p>The Scottish Government welcomes Ofcom's intention to work with government and other organisations to help deliver improvements in mobile connectivity in areas where the market will not readily deliver good outcomes.</p> <p>A recurring issue raised with us, by members of the public, elected members and local authorities, is that in many parts of Scotland, Ofcom's mobile coverage checker and published coverage data fails to match the real-life coverage experience. We therefore welcome Ofcom's intention to enhance the "Map Your Mobile" service; and in parallel, are pleased that Ofcom is keen to enhance its understanding of mobile coverage issues, having recently awarded a tender focusing on coverage management in Manchester. We continue to encourage Ofcom to consider all and any other relevant methods of collecting data to enhance the MNOs' predictions as presented in Ofcom's coverage checker. Alternative data sources could include the data that we, working with the Scottish Futures Trust, have collected through sensors on bin lorries in a number of local authorities; Glasgow City Council has also collected rich data in the same way. We would collectively be willing to collaborate with Ofcom on how this type of approach – and our data – could be integrated into the national coverage model and would welcome a further discussion to this end.</p>

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	<p>We are also keen to see coverage data go further than reporting merely coverage per se, but start to consider what constitutes “useable” coverage. We appreciate there are many variables and nuances around this issue but would like to work with Ofcom on how this could be adequately assessed as a greater understanding of “what good looks like” would be valuable as we consider potential mobile policy priorities in the short-medium term more widely. We are keen to continue engagement with Ofcom as we develop our thinking over the following year.</p> <p><u>Telecoms Access Review</u></p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to fostering an environment that encourages and maximises commercial investment in telecommunications networks, while directing public funding to extend futureproof digital infrastructure into areas that fall beyond the scope of commercial deployment. -proof digital infrastructure into areas that fall beyond the scope of commercial deployment.</p> <p>We want to work with Ofcom to ensure that the regulatory framework supports continued investment across Scotland. As outlined in our response to the Telecoms Access Review consultation, we would urge Ofcom to ensure that the regulatory environment continues to incentivise faster deployment, with a particular focus on rural and island areas.</p> <p><u>Enabling Wireless in the UK Economy</u></p> <p>The Scottish Government welcomes Ofcom’s intention for spectrum to continue to be a key enabler of wireless connectivity and its recognition that availability and management of spectrum is of significant importance in improving connectivity. We note the prominence of spectrum in the Plan of Work, including more detailed activities on specific spectrum bands/forthcoming reallocations, and we have a particular interest where any changes to the regime and/or newly liberalised spectrum</p>

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	have the potential to foster the growth and future availability of mobile broadband (such as 6G) and satellite services (such as direct-to-device). We are keen to discuss specific opportunities, including trials, to this end with Ofcom and how we can support Ofcom's work.

Please complete this form in full and return to [planofwork@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:planofwork@ofcom.org.uk)