

With regard to this consultation I think the most immediately concerning and immediately damaging part of the Act and the way it will be enforced affects how it applied to providers of public wifi.

I believe that providers of public wifi should not be liable for the actions of (the often anonymous) users of the service they provider as those actions relate to the Act.

I believe Ofcom's guidance on the matter should be to provide for the providers of public wifi (libraries, cafes, co-working spaces, stations, waiting rooms etc) to operate largely as they do at the moment without fear of prosecution or other legal actions in relation to the activities of it's users.

I believe any attempt at adding registration, permits, extra costs or other means of giving such providers special status at the ISP or government level would also be a mistake, adding red-tape or unfair charges for small or non-profit businesses and any such mechanism should be avoided.

I think that everything should be done to maintain widespread public wifi and remove any deterrents or fears that may prevent people from providing such services. I think that anything that could cause a loss of public wifi will have greater negative impacts co-working/cafe working communities, public access to information and other areas of society were widespread public access to internet has become part of everyday life.

Also a final point, I think it is also possible that reduction in public wifi could lead to an increase in the usage of 3G and in the future 4G dongles and tethering devices adding extra strain to the mobile networks that already struggle to keep up with the ever growing demand.

I'm sure many have provided similar feedback with greater clarity and detail than I have but I hope Ofcom takes my comments into account equally with all others.