



## Availability of Numbering Resource

Proposals for geographic number conservation measures in additional geographic area codes, additional numbering resources for NTS (087X and 084X), revised application forms for telephone numbers and changes to the Telephone Numbering Plan

Consultation

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## Section 1

# Summary

- 1.1 It is Ofcom's duty to ensure that the best use is made of the UK's numbering resource and to encourage efficiency and innovation for that purpose, thus ensuring sufficient and appropriate telephone numbers and codes are available to provide communications services to consumers. There is currently a scarcity of numbers in some geographic areas and in the Number Translation Services ('NTS') number range (the 08 range). To ensure the continued availability of numbers, and thereby supporting competition, consumer choice and innovation in service provision, conservation measures are necessary in certain geographic areas and new number ranges are required to supplement the 0844/0871 ranges.
- 1.2 The purpose of this document, therefore, is to consult on Ofcom's (the Office of Communications) proposals for the conservation of geographic numbers in further geographic area codes and to make additional numbers available in areas of the UK's National Numbering Scheme ("the Scheme") where the supply of the existing resource has become limited. Ofcom is also consulting on proposals to modify the Reseller Identification (RID) Code Numbering Application Form S18 ("the RID Application Form"). The proposals are designed to ensure the ongoing availability of numbers to meet communications providers' needs.
- 1.3 In relation to geographic numbering, this document is concerned with the designation of new areas in need of geographic number conservation measures. Ofcom is not proposing changes to geographic numbers. The proposals have no adverse impact on consumers. On the contrary, they benefit consumers by ensuring that sufficient and appropriate numbers are available in all geographic areas thus promoting competition in the provision of communications services.
- 1.4 When applying for an allocation or reservation of telephone numbers Communications Providers are required to use the appropriate application form as directed by Ofcom. Numbering Application Forms S1, S8 and S18 ("the Application Forms") are appropriate for the purposes of applying for geographic numbering, NTS numbering and RID codes. Ofcom is seeking comments on proposals to make changes to the Application Forms and explains why the changes are needed in this document.
- 1.5 Ofcom is responsible for the publication of the National Telephone Numbering Plan ("the Plan"), which sets out numbers available for allocation and any restrictions on their adoption or use, including the designation of conservation areas and its affect on number allocation and use. Ofcom must follow certain statutory procedures when it proposes to make changes to the Plan. This consultation document fulfils the statutory procedure in proposing the necessary changes to the Plan to reflect the proposals for geographic number conservation measures and ensuring that the Plan includes all numbers available for allocation.
- 1.6 The proposals to maintain the supply of telephone numbers set out in this consultation document are the measures required to ensure the ongoing supply of numbers within the established policy. It is consistent with the policy aims set out in

the *Telephone Numbering: Safeguarding the future of numbers* statement published in July 2006<sup>1</sup> (the Numbering Policy Review).

## Geographic conservation measures

- 1.7 This document consults on proposals to extend conservation measures to additional geographic areas. The proposal is to immediately give conservation status to a further 59 geographic area codes, in addition to the 78 existing conservation areas, enabling numbers in those areas to be allocated to communications providers in smaller blocks. This would extend the life of number blocks in those areas by reducing the rate at which numbers are allocated and aligning the size of allocation more closely to demand.
- 1.8 Ofcom is also consulting on the possibility of extending conservation measures to a further 32 geographic area codes that are close to exhaustion but not yet believed to be critical. This proposal is in line with current policy as Ofcom believes that these areas have a realistic expectation of number exhaustion within the next five years. Ofcom will therefore seek responses to two options:
- **Option 1:** take conservation measures now on all 91 geographic area codes; or
  - **Option 2:** take conservation measures now on the 59 geographic area codes with the additional 32 geographic area codes to be given conservation status in January 2008.
- 1.9 These conservation measures are in addition to existing conservation measures. The proposals are designed to ensure the ongoing availability of geographic number blocks to meet communications providers' needs.

## Additional numbering resources for NTS

- 1.10 Some of the current numbering resources for the provision of NTS are nearing exhaustion. Therefore, Ofcom is proposing to expand the resource set aside for these services by making available additional 3-digit sub-ranges within the 087 and 084 ranges. The proposal is to designate 0872 and 0873 to supplement the 0871 sub-range for and 0843 to supplement the 0844 sub-range.
- 1.11 In the Numbering Policy Review, Ofcom set out a longer-term aim to manage growth on the existing 08 range in a manner that will, over a period of time, simplify the meaning provided to consumers by these numbers. The basic proposition is that meaning should primarily be provided by the first two digits of the dialled number (080/084/087) with the added simplification that the higher the number, the higher the price. The proposed allocations are consistent with this longer-term aim.

## Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast

- 1.12 During 2006 Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast numbering resources were nearing exhaustion. Ofcom opened up new ranges to supplement the existing number resource. Ofcom now proposes to modify the Plan to include the new ranges.

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<sup>1</sup> *Telephone Numbering: Safeguarding the future of numbers* statement published in July 2006  
<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/numberingreview/statement/statement.pdf>

## **Reseller ID Codes**

- 1.13 RID codes are codes used to identify communication providers when placing order types via the Carrier Pre Selection (“CPS”) Service Provider Gateway and/or Wholesale Line Rental (“WLR”) Gateway. Ofcom understands that the industry consider that the use of RID codes should be extended to Local Loop Unbundling (“LLU”). Ofcom is proposing changes to the RID Application Form to reflect these changes.

## **Consultation process**

- 1.14 This consultation seeks responses to the specific consultation questions set out in the document and general comments during the one month consultation period, which ends at 5pm on 5 April 2007. The Communications Act 2003 (“the Act”) states that one month is the minimum period for consultation on modifications to the Plan and Application Forms. Ofcom has decided not to extend the consultation period to 10 weeks as set out in Ofcom’s consultation principles (A1.22) because the proposals only directly relate to applicants for telephone numbers, not the public at large, thus the changes proposed are limited in scope and relate only to existing policy and policy documents (i.e. the Plan).

## Section 2

# Introduction

## The need for this consultation

- 2.1 Ofcom is responsible for the publication of the Plan and the administration of the Scheme. The Plan sets out numbers available for allocation and any restrictions in their adoption or use, while the Scheme provides the day-to-day record of the status of telephone numbers in the UK. It is Ofcom's duty, as set out in section 63 of the Act, to ensure that best use is made of the UK's numbering resource and to encourage efficiency and innovation for that purpose, thus ensuring sufficient and appropriate telephone numbers are available to provide communications services to consumers.
- 2.2 Where the supply of blocks of numbers required for the provision of communications services is limited, it is Ofcom's duty to rectify the situation. This is because a lack of available numbers would hinder competition, consumer choice and innovation in the provision of networks and services. This consultation document proposes a number of measures which are necessary to ensure the ongoing supply of telephone numbers to meet communications providers' needs.
- 2.3 The supply of blocks of geographic numbers for allocation by Ofcom to communications providers is currently limited in some geographic areas. Therefore, Ofcom proposes to extend conservation measures to those geographic area codes which are experiencing a shortage of number blocks. This proposal would increase the supply of blocks available for allocation in geographic areas with limited availability by reducing the size of number block to units of 1,000 (1k) rather than 10,000 (10k) numbers.
- 2.4 Geographic number conservation status is recorded in the Plan. This ensures, through the provision of the General Condition of Entitlement 17 ("the Numbering Condition"), that communications providers observe the resulting restrictions in allocation and use. Therefore, Ofcom's proposals require a modification to the Plan to bring them into effect.
- 2.5 Some of the current numbering resources assigned for the provision of NTS are nearing exhaustion. It is important to address this issue immediately to ensure the continued allocation of these numbers to communications providers. Ofcom therefore proposes to increase the supply of numbers set aside for provision of NTS.
- 2.6 During 2006 available number blocks for allocation to communications providers within the Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast geographic area codes became limited. Ofcom decided to open up additional ranges for expansion within these area codes. Ofcom propose to update the Plan to reflect these changes.
- 2.7 RID codes are three character alphabetic codes which are used to identify the service provider who bills the end-user for the provision of an electronic communication service and is also the end-user's point of contact for any queries in relation to the service. In many cases, the retail brand recognised by the end-user and the underlying network provider are not the same and therefore the RID identifies the retail brand.

## Links to the Numbering Policy Review

- 2.8 On 27 July 2006, Ofcom published a statement entitled *Telephone Numbering: Safeguarding the future of numbers* (“the Numbering Policy Review”). This document set out a number of strategic principles which are intended to inform numbering policy, plus a number of policy initiatives which are intended to address certain consumer concerns. One of the initiatives dealt with the need to ensure the ongoing supply of geographic numbers in all areas. It also set out the strategic approach to ensure the continued supply of NTS numbers. The strategic principles which are set out in this document are consistent with, and support the delivery of, the principles set out in the Numbering Policy Review.

## Section 3

# Conserving geographic numbers

## Introduction

- 3.1 Geographic numbers are widely recognised and trusted by consumers. They are also the type of number in most demand by communications providers. The result in some areas is pressure on the availability of geographic numbering.
- 3.2 Demand management processes, in the form of conservation measures, are Ofcom's preferred means of ensuring that the available geographic numbering resource meets demand and helps prevent the need to create additional numbers (i.e. through number changes or additional codes) as set out in the Numbering Policy Review. The February 2007 Statement Raising confidence in telephone numbers<sup>2</sup> encourages a more forward looking approach to assessing number shortage by selection areas that Ofcom believe could be at risk of exhaustion within a period of 5 years.
- 3.3 Conservation measures are already in place for geographic numbers in certain areas which have previously experienced a shortage of numbers. They are the established means of increasing the availability of geographic number blocks for allocation to communications providers by reducing the unit of allocation from 10k to 1k. Conservation measures work by increasing the effectiveness with which communications providers use geographic numbers.

## Geographic number conservation policy

- 3.4 The UK Scheme has over 600 geographic area codes. Telephone numbers in the majority of these areas are divided into blocks of 10k for allocation to communications providers. This block size was established historically as a reasonable level at which communications providers' networks could, in terms of technical capability, interpret the digits dialled and route calls accordingly. However, many communications providers do not require 10k geographic numbers in most areas and allocation of numbers at this level is often wasteful of the resource and results in poor utilisation of numbers. By reducing the amount of numbers in a block to 1k, the number of blocks available for allocation increases tenfold. This conservation measure does not affect communication providers' access to sufficient geographic numbers to meet their needs, as blocks can be allocated in multiple units of 1k according to justified demand.
- 3.5 Currently there are 78 Conservation Areas recorded in the Plan. Nine areas have had conservation status since 2002, a further 42 areas have had conservation status since 2005 and 27 areas were given conservation status in 2006. Ofcom's consultation on Conserving Geographic Numbers (February 2005 Consultation) in 2005<sup>3</sup> established the policy principle of geographic number conservation being our preferred means of ensuring the ongoing availability of geographic numbers.
- 3.6 When designating conservation areas last year, Ofcom sought to keep the number of areas given conservation status at that time to the minimum necessary to ensure

<sup>2</sup> *Raising confidence in telephone numbers – statement and consultation published on 13 February 2007* <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/numbering03/03.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *Conserving geographic numbers – consultation published 17 February 2005 and statement published 14 June 2005* <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/geo/>



ongoing availability of numbers for the coming two years. In keeping the amount of conservation areas to a minimum, it was acknowledged that Ofcom would need to revisit the assessment of which areas required conservation measures regularly to ensure that available capacity was not exhausted. It is for this reason that Ofcom is consulting now on further conservation measures.

### **Creating additional Conservation Areas**

3.7 Since the creation of additional conservation areas in August 2006, the high level of demand for geographic numbers has generated a further set of areas that require conservation measures. This is due to an increase in the number of communications providers entering the market who all have a demand for geographic numbers across the UK.

3.8 In order to give a geographic area code conservation status, Ofcom selects those areas it considers meet the established criteria for Conservation Areas as set out in the February 2005 Consultation. This criteria is measured by using data on the availability of numbers for allocation and the current utilisation rates for each area and combines this with a number of assumptions, including forecasted maximum number of providers, market share, utilisation, demographics, etc. as set out in the Numbering Policy Review. It then consults on modifying the Plan so that the conservation status is reflected and the measures, consisting of restrictions in use of numbers in conservation areas, are enforceable. These restrictions are set out in part B3.1.6 of the Plan as follows:

“Numbers in geographic areas where a Conservation Area status is indicated shall only be Adopted or otherwise used in units of 1,000 numbers at a time.”

3.9 The fast moving nature of the communications industry means that invariably there will be an element of speculation when trying to determine future demands on the numbering resource. However, future planning is vital to ensure that sufficient and appropriate numbers are available. Therefore Ofcom believes that the concept of future prediction of block shortage in certain geographic area codes, coupled with the instigation of measures designed to offset that shortage by increasing the supply of blocks available for allocation, is a vital tool in meeting its duties in administering the Scheme.

3.10 Currently, Ofcom makes an assessment using a combination of:

- the number of 10k blocks available for allocation to communications providers; and
- demand for numbers in an area, taking into account the total numbers available, numbers in use, population, and current and predicted future demand.

### **Effects of Ofcom's proposal to create additional Conservation Areas**

3.11 Ofcom's proposal to create additional geographic number conservation areas does not have any adverse effects on consumers, rather it secures the benefits of competition and innovation for them by ensuring sufficient numbers are available on which they can receive services. It is also important to note that the proposals do not relate to number changes nor should the proposals be taken as an indication that there are insufficient numbers available to meet consumers' needs in the proposed conservation areas. On the contrary, conservation measures are designed to offset

the need for supply-side measures such as number changes, which are costly and disruptive for consumers. Ofcom's expectation is that they will be successful in doing so.

- 3.12 The proposal does have an impact on the way communications providers route calls to some geographic numbers due to the need to analyse more digits. This may result in administrative and operational costs. There are also infrastructure limitations on legacy networks' ability to route at the 1k level, which is why Ofcom has introduced conservation measures in a phased manner and only where necessary. However, while Ofcom acknowledges that its geographic number conservation policy may have some cost implications for communications providers, these costs are outweighed by the benefits for competition and consumer interests delivered by maintaining the supply of geographic number blocks without the need for supply-side measures. These costs and benefits were considered in the July 2006 statement that led to Ofcom's ongoing commitment to conservation measures as the most appropriate means of meeting communications providers' demand for geographic numbers. In addition, a consultancy study conducted by Intercai Mondiale on behalf of Ofcom concluded that there was no overarching technical reason why communications providers could not support conservation measures in additional geographic area<sup>4</sup>.

### Links to the Numbering Policy Review

- 3.13 Ofcom's proposals for additional conservation measures, as set out in this consultation, are consistent with and support the proposals for geographic numbers as set out in the Numbering Policy Review document. That document presented Ofcom's strategic views on how to maintain continuity and availability of geographic numbers. It stated that growth in the demand for geographic numbers was not due to an underlying demand from end-users but from demand for number blocks from communications providers. Due to the need to allocate geographic numbers in large blocks, actual utilisation is generally low, on average around 15% of the block. Therefore Ofcom proposed addressing the cause of geographic number exhaustion, i.e. the low utilisation of number blocks, by increasing conservation measures and proposed that the forward-look period for conservation be extended to five years as set out in the Plan.

### Proposed conservation areas

- 3.14 Ofcom has examined the current position of all geographic area codes without conservation status and concluded that 59 areas require immediate Conservation Area status in addition to the existing 78 areas. In addition Ofcom has concluded that a further 32 areas will require Conservation Area status within the next 12 months. All 91 geographic area codes are likely to be exhausted within five years if conservation measures are not taken. The areas proposed are set out in the tables below, including the count of blocks allocated since October 2005, and in the schedule to the Notification of modification to the Plan in Annex 5.
- 3.15 Therefore, Ofcom proposes 2 options for consultation:
- **Option 1:** put in place conservation measures now for all 91 geographic code areas listed in tables 1 and 2 that are at risk of exhaustion. This will ensure continued availability of numbers within these geographic code areas for the foreseeable future and will alleviate the possibility of having to take any further

<sup>4</sup> *Finer digit analysis of telephone numbers for routing purposes*, published 23 February 2006  
<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/numberingreview/digitanalysis/>

action e.g. overlay codes. It is accepted that this option may be putting an immediate impact on communications providers as the need to analyse more digits may result in additional administrative and operation costs. By taking this option now Ofcom will ensure the availability of numbers for the longer term but in the shorter term it may cause additional costs to communications providers.

- **Option 2:** put in place conservation measures now for the 59 geographic code areas listed in Table 1. These codes are in immediate need of conservation measures to extend the life of the blocks available. The 32 additional geographic code areas listed in table 2 will be given conservation status in January 2008. Taking this decision now will ensure the continued availability of numbers in these geographic code areas without having to consult again in the near future. It is Ofcom's preferred option to spread the implementation of conservation measures. This option will ensure the availability of numbers in the long term but will lessen the immediate impact on communications providers' limited decode resource.

**Table 1 – 59 Geographic Area Codes that need Conservations Measures implemented immediately.**

This table demonstrates the increased demand for geographic numbers. If the current trends continue many of the areas listed in this table will become completely exhausted in less than six months.

Area Code	Geographic Area name	Free Blocks January 2007	Blocks Allocated since October 2005
1229	Barrow-in-Furness	10	18
1242	Cheltenham	10	21
1628	Maidenhead	10	17
1437	Haverfordwest	13	11
1279	Bishops Stortford	13	16
1442	Hemel Hempstead	13	19
1622	Maidstone	14	17
1926	Warwick	14	18
1282	Burnley	14	24
1686	Newtown	14	11
1634	Medway	14	14
1527	Redditch	15	16
1522	Lincoln	16	22
1625	Macclesfield	16	13
1623	Mansfield	16	15
1737	Redhill	16	19
1322	Dartford	16	20
1606	Northwich	16	14
1228	Carlisle	16	25
1296	Aylesbury	17	22
1895	Uxbridge	17	13
1246	Chesterfield	17	20

1430	Market Weighton	18	12
1243	Chichester	18	20
1732	Sevenoaks	18	17
1430	North Cave	18	10
1539	Kendal	18	15
1992	Lea Valley	18	15
1227	Canterbury	19	23
1784	Staines	19	18
1472	Grimsby	19	18
1803	Torquay	19	16
1903	Worthing	19	13
1324	Falkirk	19	19
1277	Brentwood	20	21
1454	Chipping Sodbury	21	17
1480	Huntingdon	21	15
1270	Crewe	21	18
1686	Llanidloes	21	10
1536	Kettering	21	19
1744	St Helens	21	14
1892	Tunbridge wells	21	15
1823	Taunton	21	19
1387	Dumfries	22	18
1323	Eastbourne	22	21
1438	Stevenage	22	16
1422	Halifax	22	20
1768	Penrith	22	11
1372	Esher	22	20
1460	Chard	22	15
1975	Alford (Aberdeen)	22	10
1443	Pontypridd	22	17
1339	Aboyne	23	14
1386	Evesham	23	18
1233	Ashford	23	20
1743	Shrewsbury	23	18
1437	Clynderwen	23	11
1236	Coatbridge	24	19
1624	Isle of Man	27	0

**Table 2 – 32 Geographic Area Codes that may need Conservation Measures implemented within the next 12 months.**

This table again demonstrates the increased demand in geographic numbers, however at a slightly slower rate than those in table 1. It can be estimated that if current trends continue

most of the geographic code areas listed in this table will require conservation status within twelve months.

Area Code	Geographic Area name	Free Blocks January 2007	Blocks Allocated sin October 2005
1229	Millom	16	7
1851	Great Bernera	16	5
1847	Tongue	17	7
1964	Patrington	19	9
1890	Coldstream	19	9
1964	Hornsea	21	8
1851	Stornaway	25	10
1509	Loughborough	25	16
1890	Ayton	25	8
1506	Bathgate	25	18
1325	Darlington	25	14
1462	Hitchin	26	16
1339	Ballater	26	7
1283	Burton-on-Trent	26	17
1403	Horsham	26	17
1299	Buxton	26	17
1922	Walsall	27	13
1978	Wrexham	27	18
1543	Cannock	27	17
1547	Thurso	27	10
1383	Dunfermline	27	20
1727	St Albans	27	17
1738	Perth	28	18
1278	Bridgewater	28	20
1424	Hastings	28	18
1444	Haywards Heath	28	22
1455	Hinckley	28	17
1275	Clevedon	29	15
1592	Kirkcaldy	29	14
1562	Kidderminster	29	12
1975	Strathdon	29	8
1977	Pontefract	29	15

*Question 1: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposal for the 91 geographic area codes listed in Tables 1 and 2 above to be determined as Conservation Areas? Are there any codes which you think a) should not have been included in the proposal; and/or b) have been omitted? If so, please state which codes and for what reasons.*

*Question 2: Do you think that Ofcom should decide that the 59 geographic area codes listed in Table 1 should be determined as Conservation Areas now and the 32 geographic area codes listed in Table 2 to be determined as Conservations Areas in January 2008?*

## Section 4

# Additional numbering resources for NTS

## What is NTS?

- 4.1 NTS calls are calls to numbers identified in the National Telephone Numbering Plan ('the Plan') as Special Services numbers (broadly, numbers that start with 08 or 09). In addition, NTS includes calls to the legacy 0500 Freephone numbers, which whilst still in use, are not listed in the Plan as they are no longer available for new allocations. Calls to 0844 04 numbers for Surftime internet access services and calls to 0808 99 numbers for Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination ('FRIACO') are not included.
- 4.2 NTS numbers are examples of non-geographic numbers in that the number dialled does not relate to a specific geographic location, but instead relates to a particular service. At a technical level, the NTS number dialled by a caller is 'translated' by the network to a geographic number to deliver the call to its destination.
- 4.3 The NTS ranges are designated for use as follows:
  - a) 080 ('Freephone'): usually free to caller;
  - b) 0844: up to and including 5p per minute or per call for BT customers;
  - c) 0845: standard local call price for BT customers before discounts and call packages;
  - d) 0870: standard national call price for BT customers before discounts and call packages;
  - e) 0871: up to and including 10p per minute or per call for BT customers; and
  - f) 09: generally over 10p per minute or per call for BT customers (also commonly known as 'premium rate services' or 'PRS').
- 4.4 NTS numbers are used by organisations and individuals to provide access to a very wide range of services from pay-as-you-go dial-up internet access to financial services, road traffic advice and tele-voting on TV programmes. Ofcom's research indicates that the types of services provided varies by number range and believes that the general picture is as follows:
  - a) 0844 and 0845 numbers are used to access pay-as-you-go dial-up internet services (predominantly using 0845 numbers), and also support a wide range of other services, including pre- and post-sales enquiry lines, public sector services, transaction services and information services;
  - b) 0870 and 0871 numbers are principally used to provide access to pre- and post-sales enquiry lines, some public sector services and services such as the international telephony services provided by resellers. Recent evidence also indicates that they are now being used to support adult services.

## Links to other Ofcom work

- 4.5 On 19 April 2006, Ofcom published a policy statement (Number Translation Services: A Way Forward)<sup>5</sup> concluding a wide-ranging policy review for NTS. The policy review specified a set of measures to be implemented over a two year period, designed to improve consumer protection and pricing transparency. The measures included, inter alia, the withdrawal of the regulatory support for revenue sharing on the 0870 range in conjunction with repairing the linkage between 0870 call charges and national call charges for ordinary geographic calls. Businesses currently using 0870 numbers that wish to continue to obtain a revenue share from call charges would need to move to alternate number ranges. As a result, increased demand for new number blocks in the 0844 and 0871 ranges was anticipated and has been observed during recent months. Ofcom anticipates that demand for 0844 and 0871 number blocks may continue to be elevated prior to the changes to 0870 which will take place at the end of January 2008.
- 4.6 In the Numbering Policy Review, Ofcom set out a longer-term aim to manage growth on the existing 08 range in a manner that will, over a period of time, simplify the meaning provided to consumers by these numbers. The basic proposition is that meaning should primarily be provided by the first two digits of the dialled number (080 / 084 / 087) with the added simplification that the higher the number, the higher the price. The proposed allocations are consistent with this longer-term aim.

## The need for additional numbering resources

- 4.7 Two of the NTS number ranges 0871 and 0844 are approaching exhaustion. At present there are only 28 unallocated number blocks on the sub ranges designated for NTS services (0871 2-9 ) and 195 unallocated blocks in the sub ranges designated for NTS services (0844 2-9).
- 4.8 During the last two years Ofcom has allocated about 200 0871 blocks per annum and 150 to 180 0844 blocks per annum. Therefore, at the present level of demand, Ofcom expects capacity on the 0871 range to be exhausted very shortly and the 0844 range during the next year.
- 4.9 As discussed in para 4.5) Ofcom anticipates that demand may be higher this year as a consequence of the forthcoming changes to the 08 range resulting from the NTS review. Recently, Ofcom has also observed additional demand for 0871 numbers for services migrating from personal numbers (070 numbers).

## Additional numbering resources

- 4.10 In order to meet anticipated demand, Ofcom proposes to make available additional ranges to supplement 0871 and 0844.
- 4.11 Ofcom proposes to make available the 0843 range to supplement 0844 and proposes that the new range should have the same designation as 0844.
- 4.12 Given the possibility that service migration from 0870 may raise demand for 0871 numbers significantly during 2007, and to avoid the need for another consultation in the medium term to make additional capacity available, Ofcom proposes to make

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<sup>5</sup> *Number Translation Services: A Way Forward* publishes on 19 April 2006  
[http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/nts\\_forward/statement/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/nts_forward/statement/)



available the 0872 and 0873 ranges to supplement 0871. Ofcom proposes that the ranges should have the same designation as 0871.

- 4.13 Ofcom will initially allocate only 0872 numbers and will not allocate 0873 until 0872 capacity is exhausted.

*Question 3: Ofcom proposes to make available the 0843, 0872 and 0873 ranges to provide additional capacity to meet anticipated demand for 0844 and 0871 numbers. Do you agree with this proposal or have an alternative proposal?*

## Section 5

# Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast

- 5.1 Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast geographic area codes were changed to 3 digit codes following the National Code and Number Change in 2000. At the time the ranges 023 92 were made available for Portsmouth, 023 80 for Southampton and 028 90 for Belfast.
- 5.2 Expansion ranges were set aside for each of these geographic area codes to be made available when current capacity became exhausted These expansion ranges would be opened up to ensure the continued availability of numbers.
- 5.3 During 2006 it became clear that all three areas were in need of additional numbers. Ofcom opened up the ranges 023 93 for Portsmouth, 023 81 for Southampton and 028 95 for Belfast to supplement 023 92, 023 80 and 028 90 respectively.
- 5.4 Accordingly, Ofcom proposes to modify the Plan, as set out in Annex 5, to include these new ranges.

*Question 4: Do you have any comments regarding the proposal to modify the Plan with respect to Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast area codes?*

## Section 6

# Proposed modification to Numbering Application Form S18

- 6.1 RID codes are three character alphabetic codes which are used to identify the service provider who bills the end-user for the provision of an electronic communications service and is also the end-user's point of contact for any queries in relation to the service. In many cases, the retail brand recognised by the end-user and the underlying network provider are not the same and therefore the RID identifies the retail brand.
- 6.2 Communications Providers are presently required to provide a valid and active RID when placing any order types via the CPS Service Provider Gateway and/or the WLR Gateway or their order will be rejected. The Equivalence Management Platform ("EMP") also requires the Communications Provider to provide a valid and active RID for WLR orders. These gateways or platforms are the electronic interfaces used by other Communications Providers to order wholesale services from the BT Group of companies.
- 6.3 Ofcom understands that the industry considers that the use of RID codes should be extended to LLU and suggested that requests for RID codes for LLU should be submitted via the RID Application Form. Furthermore, EMP 500 will require Communications Providers to provide a valid and active RID when placing any order types via the EMP or orders will be rejected. In terms of the proposed extension of the RID Application Form to cover RID codes for LLU, and the allocation of further RID codes more generally, Ofcom considers that the approach proposed seems reasonable.
- 6.1 In this case, the modifications proposed would extend the application of the RID Application Form to the allocation of RID codes for WLR and LLU. The modifications proposed are set out in Annex 6.

*Question 6: Do you have any comments on the proposed modifications to the RID Application Form?*

## Section 7

# Proposed modifications to the National Telephone Numbering Plan and the 01/02, 08 and RID Application Forms

## The legal framework

- 7.1 Ofcom regulates the communications sector under the framework established by the Communications Act 2003 (the “Act”). The Act provides, amongst other things in relation to numbering, for the publication of the Plan and the setting of General Conditions of Entitlement relating to Telephone Numbers (“Numbering Conditions”). It also sets out statutory procedures governing the modification of the Plan and the giving of directions under conditions such as the Numbering Conditions.

## The Plan

- 7.2 Section 56(1) of the Act states that:

"It shall be the duty of OFCOM to publish a document (to be known as "the National Telephone Numbering Plan") setting out-

- a) the numbers that they have determined to be available for allocation by them as telephone numbers;
- b) such restrictions as they consider appropriate on the adoption of numbers available for allocation in accordance with the plan; and
- c) such restrictions as they consider appropriate on the other uses to which numbers available for allocation in accordance with the plan may be put."

- 7.3 The Act provides for Ofcom to review and revise the Plan. Section 56(2) states that:

"It shall be OFCOM's duty –

- a) from time to time to review the National Telephone Numbering Plan; and
- b) to make any modification of that plan that they think fit in consequence of such a review; but this duty must be performed in compliance with the requirements, so far as applicable, of section 60."

- 7.4 Section 60 of the Act provides for the modification of documents referred to in the Numbering Conditions (which includes the Plan) and explains the procedures to be followed in order to conduct this review. Section 60(2) of the Act provides that:

"OFCOM must not revise or otherwise modify the relevant provisions unless they are satisfied that the revision or modification is -

- a) objectively justifiable in relation to the matters to which it relates;

- b) not such as to discriminate unduly against particular persons or against a particular description of persons;
- c) proportionate to what the modification is intended to achieve; and
- d) in relation to what it is intended to achieve, transparent."

7.5 Section 60(3) further provides that:

"Before revising or otherwise modifying the relevant provisions, OFCOM must publish a notification -

- a) stating that they are proposing to do so;
- b) specifying the Plan or other document that they are proposing to revise or modify;
- c) setting out the effect of their proposed revisions or modifications;
- d) giving their reasons for making the proposal; and
- e) specifying the period within which representations may be made to OFCOM about their proposal."

7.6 Section 45 of the Act gives Ofcom the power to set conditions:

"(1) Ofcom shall have the power to set conditions under this section binding the persons to whom they are applied in accordance with section 46.

(2) A condition set by Ofcom under this section must be either –

(a) a general condition....."

7.7 Section 58 of the Act provides examples of the type of general conditions that Ofcom may set about the allocation and adoption of numbers, including procedures that apply in relation to applications for allocations of telephone numbers.

7.8 The General Conditions Notification that took effect on 25 July 2003 includes General Condition 17, which contains provisions relating to the allocation, adoption and use of telephone numbers. Clause 17.9 states that:

"When applying for an Allocation of Telephone Numbers, the Communications Providers shall:

use an appropriate application form as directed by the Director from time to time as he thinks fit;

provide such information as required by such application form."

By the virtue of the Transitional Provisions, references to the Director in the Numbering Condition should be read as reference to Ofcom.

- 7.9 Section 49 applies to directions and approvals that affect the operation of conditions set under section 45. Before making a change to an appropriate application form, Ofcom must satisfy the tests set out in section 49(2) of the Act as follows:

“A person must not give, modify or withdraw the direction, approval or consent unless he is satisfied that to do so is:

objectively justifiable in relation to the matters to which it relates;

not such as to discriminate unduly against particular persons or against a particular description of person;

proportionate to what the modification is intended to achieve; and

in relation to what it is intended to achieve, transparent.”

- 7.10 Section 49(4) further provides that:

“Before the direction, approval or consent is given, modified or withdrawn, a notification must be published –

- (a) stating that there is a proposal to give, modify or withdraw it;
- (b) identify the person whose proposal it is;
- (c) setting out the direction, approval or consent to which the proposal relate;
- (d) setting out the effect of the direction, approval or consent or of its proposed modification or withdrawal; and
- (e) specifying the period within which representation may be made about the proposal to the person whose proposal it is.”

### **Ofcom's general duty as to telephone numbering functions**

- 7.11 Ofcom has a general duty under section 63(1) of the Act in carrying out its numbering functions

“a) to secure that what appears to them to be the best use is made of the numbers that are appropriate for use as telephone numbers; and

b) to encourage efficiency and innovation for that purpose.”

### **General duties of Ofcom**

- 7.12 The principal duty of Ofcom to be observed in the carrying out of its functions is set out in section 3(1) of the Act as the duty:

“a) to further the interests of citizens in relation to communications matters; and

b) to further the interests of consumers in relevant markets, where appropriate by promoting competition.”

- 7.13 As part of the fulfilment of these principal duties, it is Ofcom's responsibility to secure the availability throughout the UK of a wide range of numbering arrangements, having regard to the interests of consumers in respect to choice, price awareness, and consumer protection.

### Duties for the purpose of fulfilling Community obligations

- 7.14 In addition to its general duties as to telephone numbers, when considering revisions to the Plan, Ofcom must also take into account the six Community requirements in carrying out its functions as set out in section 4 of the Act. These include the requirement to promote competition in the provision of electronic communications networks and services, and the requirement not to favour one form of network, service or associated facility or one means of providing or making available such network, service or associated facility over another, as well as the requirement to promote the interests of European citizens.
- 7.15 The various legal tests and duties, and how Ofcom has complied with them in consulting on the proposals in this consultation document, are set out below.

### Legal tests

- 7.16 It is Ofcom's duty, when proposing a modification to the Plan and Application Forms, to show how it considers that its proposals comply with the legal tests in the Act.
- 7.17 The effect of the modification to the Plan would give conservation status to additional geographic areas and ensure that the Plan includes all new number ranges.
- 7.18 Ofcom is satisfied that the proposal for modifications to provisions of the Plan and the Applications Forms meets the tests set out in sections 60(2) and 49(2) of the Act being:
- **objectively justifiable**, because it will help to ensure the long-term availability of sufficient numbering resource to meet communication providers' requirements and to promote competition and consumer choice. It is also Ofcom's duty to direct the appropriate application form on which to apply for geographic and 08 numbers and RID codes and these forms would need to be modified to reflect the changes proposed;
  - **not unduly discriminatory**, in that all communications providers eligible to apply for telephone numbers would be subject to the proposed modifications to the Plan and the applications forms;
  - **proportionate**, in that the proposed modification to the Plan is the minimum revision necessary to its provisions to conserve geographic numbers, make additional 08 numbers available and to bring the Plan into line with current geographic area code number availability. The modifications the applications forms are the minimum changes required to reflect the proposed changes; and
  - **transparent**, in that the Notification proposing the modifications to the Plan and the application forms, and its effects, are set out in this consultation document.
- 7.19 Ofcom considers that it is fulfilling its general duty as to telephone number functions as set out in section 63 of the Act in making its proposals by:

- **securing the best use of appropriate numbers**, the proposal would ensure that optimal use was made of the most limited geographic numbering resources, thus ensuring that appropriate numbers are available for allocation, as well as ensuring the continued availability of NTS numbers available for allocation. The proposals are consistent with the strategy set out in the Numbering Policy Review; and
- **encouraging efficiency and innovation**, in that the proposals ensure that sufficient and appropriate numbering resources are available to meet communication providers' demands thereby encouraging innovation. They improve efficiency in number use as they more closely align allocation to demand, thus improving utilisation rates.

7.20 Ofcom considers that its proposal to modify the Plan and the application forms is consistent with its general duties in carrying out its functions as set out in section 3 of the Act. In particular, it considers that the proposals further the interests of citizens in relation to communications matters and consumers in relevant markets by ensuring that the supply of telephone numbers is maintained.

7.21 In proposing the modifications to the Plan and the application forms, Ofcom has also considered the Community obligations set out in section 4 of the Act, particularly the requirement to promote the interests of all persons who are citizens of the European Union. Taking measures to conserve geographic numbers benefits citizens as they make more efficient use of the limited resource, thus offsetting the need for more disruptive measures to ensure availability, such as number changes.

### Notifications of modifications to the Plan

7.22 The draft notifications of modifications to the Plan and Applications Forms are set out in Annex 5 and 6 of this consultation document.

*Question 6: Do you have any specific comments on the proposed modifications to the Plan and Application Forms?*



## Annex 1

# Responding to this consultation

## How to respond

- A1.1 Ofcom invites written views and comments on the issues raised in this document, to be made by **5pm on 5 April 2007**.
- A1.2 Ofcom strongly prefers to receive responses as e-mail attachments, in Microsoft Word format, as this helps us to process the responses quickly and efficiently. We would also be grateful if you could assist us by completing a response cover sheet (see Annex 3) and, among other things, to indicate whether or not there are confidentiality issues. The cover sheet can be downloaded from the 'Consultations' section of our website.
- A1.3 Please can you send your response to first [carole.baker@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:carole.baker@ofcom.org.uk)
- A1.4 Responses may alternatively be posted or faxed to the address below, marked with the title of the consultation:  
Carole Baker  
Riverside House  
2A Southwark Bridge Road  
London SE1 9HA  
Fax: 020 7981 3334
- A1.5 Note that we do not need a hard copy in addition to an electronic version. Also note that Ofcom will not routinely acknowledge receipt of responses.
- A1.6 It would be helpful if your response could include direct answers to the questions asked in this document, which are listed together at Annex 4. It would also help if you can explain why you hold your views, and how Ofcom's proposals would impact on you.

## Further information

- A1.7 If you want to discuss the issues and questions raised in this consultation, or need advice on the appropriate form of response, please contact Carole Baker at [carole.baker@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:carole.baker@ofcom.org.uk).

## Confidentiality

- A1.8 Ofcom thinks it is important for everyone interested in an issue to see the views expressed by consultation respondents. We will therefore usually publish all responses on our website, [www.ofcom.org.uk](http://www.ofcom.org.uk), ideally on receipt (when respondents confirm on their response cover sheet that this is acceptable).
- A1.9 All comments will be treated as non-confidential unless respondents specify that part or all of the response is confidential and should not be disclosed. Please place any confidential parts of a response in a separate annex, so that non-confidential parts may be published along with the respondent's identity.

- A1.10 Ofcom reserves its power to disclose any information it receives where this is required to carry out its legal requirements. Ofcom will exercise due regard to the confidentiality of information supplied.
- A1.11 Please also note that copyright and all other intellectual property in responses will be assumed to be licensed to Ofcom to use, to meet its legal requirements. Ofcom's approach on intellectual property rights is explained further on its website, at [www.ofcom.org.uk/about\\_ofcom/gov\\_accountability/disclaimer](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/about_ofcom/gov_accountability/disclaimer).

## Next steps

- A1.12 Ofcom intends to publish a statement shortly after the end of the consultation period.
- A1.13 Please note that you can register to get automatic notifications of when Ofcom documents are published, at [http://www.ofcom.org.uk/static/subscribe/select\\_list.htm](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/static/subscribe/select_list.htm).

## Ofcom's consultation processes

- A1.14 Ofcom is keen to make responding to consultations easy, and has published some consultation principles (see Annex 2) which it seeks to follow, including on the length of consultations.
- A1.15 The period of time for responses to this consultation is one month, as required by section 60(4) of the Act. Ofcom has not extended the period of consultation beyond the statutory requirement as the issues covered only directly affect applicants for telephone numbers, not the public at large, thus the changes proposed are limited in scope and relate only to existing policy and policy documents (i.e. the Plan).
- A1.16 If you have any comments or suggestions on how Ofcom conducts its consultations, please call our consultation helpdesk on 020 7981 3003 or e-mail us at [consult@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:consult@ofcom.org.uk). We would particularly welcome thoughts on how Ofcom could more effectively seek the views of those groups or individuals, such as small businesses or particular types of residential consumers, whose views are less likely to be obtained in a formal consultation.
- A1.17 If you would like to discuss these issues, or Ofcom's consultation processes more generally, you can alternatively contact Vicki Nash, Director, Scotland, who is Ofcom's consultation champion:  
 Vicki Nash  
 Ofcom (Scotland)  
 Sutherland House  
 149 St. Vincent Street  
 Glasgow G2 5NW  
 Tel: 0141 229 7401  
  
 Fax: 0141 229 7433  
 E-mail: [vicki.nash@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:vicki.nash@ofcom.org.uk)

## Annex 2

# Ofcom's consultation principles

A2.1 Ofcom has published the following seven principles that it will follow for each public written consultation:

### Before the consultation

A2.2 Where possible, we will hold informal talks with people and organisations before announcing a big consultation to find out whether we are thinking in the right direction. If we do not have enough time to do this, we will hold an open meeting to explain our proposals shortly after announcing the consultation.

### During the consultation

A2.3 We will be clear about who we are consulting, why, on what questions and for how long.

A2.4 We will make the consultation document as short and simple as possible with a summary of no more than two pages. We will try to make it as easy as possible to give us a written response. If the consultation is complicated, we may provide a shortened version for smaller organisations or individuals who would otherwise not be able to spare the time to share their views.

A2.5 We will normally allow ten weeks for responses to consultations on issues of general interest.<sup>6</sup>

A2.6 There will be a person within Ofcom who will be in charge of making sure we follow our own guidelines and reach out to the largest number of people and organisations interested in the outcome of our decisions. This individual (who we call the consultation champion) will also be the main person to contact with views on the way we run our consultations.

A2.7 If we are not able to follow one of these principles, we will explain why. This may be because a particular issue is urgent. If we need to reduce the amount of time we have set aside for a consultation, we will let those concerned know beforehand that this is a 'red flag consultation' which needs their urgent attention.

### After the consultation

A2.8 We will look at each response carefully and with an open mind. We will give reasons for our decisions and will give an account of how the views of those concerned helped shape those decisions.

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<sup>6</sup> However, as stated in paragraph 1.14, the consultation period for this specific consultation is one month ending at 5pm on 5 April 2007. This fulfils the statutory requirement for a one month consultation on modifications to the Plan. The consultation period has not been extended beyond this as the issues only directly relate to applicants for telephone numbers, not the public at large, thus the changes proposed are limited in scope and relate only to existing policy and policy documents (i.e. the Plan).

## Annex 3

# Consultation response cover sheet

- A3.1 In the interests of transparency, we will publish all consultation responses in full on our website, [www.ofcom.org.uk](http://www.ofcom.org.uk), unless a respondent specifies that all or part of their response is confidential. We will also refer to the contents of a response when explaining our decision, without disclosing the specific information that you wish to remain confidential.
- A3.2 We have produced a cover sheet for responses (see below) and would be very grateful if you could send one with your response. This will speed up our processing of responses, and help to maintain confidentiality by allowing you to state very clearly what you don't want to be published. We will keep your completed cover sheets confidential.
- A3.3 The quality of consultation can be enhanced by publishing responses before the consultation period closes. In particular, this can help those individuals and organisations with limited resources or familiarity with the issues to respond in a more informed way. Therefore Ofcom would encourage respondents to complete their cover sheet in a way that allows Ofcom to publish their responses upon receipt, rather than waiting until the consultation period has ended.
- A3.4 We strongly prefer to receive responses in the form of a Microsoft Word attachment to an email. Our website therefore includes an electronic copy of this cover sheet, which you can download from the 'Consultations' section of our website.
- A3.5 Please put any confidential parts of your response in a separate annex to your response, so that they are clearly identified. This can include information such as your personal background and experience. If you want your name, address, other contact details, or job title to remain confidential, please provide them in your cover sheet only so that we don't have to edit your response.

## Cover sheet for response to an Ofcom consultation

### BASIC DETAILS

Consultation title:

To (Ofcom contact):

Name of respondent:

Representing (self or organisation/s):

Address (if not received by email):

### CONFIDENTIALITY

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?

Nothing

☐

Name/contact details/job title

☐

Whole response

☐

Organisation

☐

Part of the response

☐

If there is no separate annex, which parts?

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation to be confidential, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

### DECLARATION

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response. It can be published in full on Ofcom's website, unless otherwise specified on this cover sheet, and I authorise Ofcom to make use of the information in this response to meet its legal requirements. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom seeks to publish responses on receipt. If your response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and you would prefer us to publish your response only once the consultation has ended, please tick here.

☐

Name

Signed (if hard copy)

**Annex 4**

## Consultation questions

*Question 1: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposal for the 91 geographic area codes listed in Tables 1 and 2 above to be determined as Conservation Areas? Are there any codes which you think a) should not have been included in the proposal; and/or b) have been omitted? If so, please state which codes and for what reasons.*

*Question 2: Do you think that Ofcom should decide that the 59 geographic area codes listed in Table 1 should be determined as Conservation Areas now and the 32 geographic area codes listed in Table 2 to be determined as Conservation Areas in January 2008?*

*Question 3: Ofcom proposes to make available the 0843, 0872 and 0873 ranges to provide additional capacity to meet anticipated demand for 0844 and 0871 numbers. Do you agree with this proposal or have an alternative proposal?*

*Question 4: Do you have any comments regarding the proposal to modify the Plan with respect to the Portsmouth, Southampton and Belfast area codes?*

*Question 5: Do you have any comments on the proposed modifications to the RID Application Form?*

*Question 6: Do you have any specific comments on the proposed modifications to the Plan and Application Forms?*

## Annex 5

# Notification of proposals for a modification to provisions of the Plan under section 60(3) of the Act

1. Ofcom, in accordance with section 60 of the Act, hereby makes the following proposal for a modification to the provisions of the Plan.
2. The Condition has effect by reference to provisions of the Plan.
3. The draft modification to the Plan is set out in the Schedule to this Notification.
4. The reasons for making the proposal and the effect of the modification are set out in the accompanying consultation document.
5. Ofcom considers that the proposed modification complies with the requirements in section 60(2) of the Act.
6. In making the proposals referred to above Ofcom have considered and acted in accordance with the six Community requirements in section 4 of the Act as well as performed their general duties under section 3 of the Act and their duty as to telephone numbering in section 63 of the Act.
7. Representations may be made to Ofcom about the proposal by 5pm on 5 April 2007.
8. Copies of this Notification have been made available to the Secretary of State.
9. In this Notification-
  - 'Act' means the Communications Act 2003;
  - 'Condition' means General Condition 17 of the General Conditions of Entitlement set by the Director by way of publication of a Notification on 22 July 2003;
  - 'Ofcom' means the Office of Communications; and
  - 'Plan' means the National Telephone Numbering Plan published from time to time by Ofcom.

Signed by



Competition Policy Director

A person authorised by Ofcom under paragraph 18 of the Schedule to the Office of Communications Act 2003

6 March 2007

## Schedule

The following Geographic Code areas shall be added to Appendix A of the Plan –

Area Code	Geographic Area name	Conservation Status
1229	Barrow-in-Furness	Y
1242	Cheltenham	Y
1628	Maidenhead	Y
1437	Haverfordwest	Y
1279	Bishops Stortford	Y
1442	Hemel Hempstead	Y
1622	Maidstone	Y
1926	Warwick	Y
1282	Burnley	Y
1686	Newtown	Y
1634	Medway	Y
1527	Redditch	Y
1522	Lincoln	Y
1625	Macclesfield	Y
1623	Mansfield	Y
1737	Redhill	Y
1322	Dartford	Y
1606	Northwich	Y
1228	Carlisle	Y
1296	Aylesbury	Y
1895	Uxbridge	Y
1246	Chesterfield	Y
1430	Market Weighton	Y
1243	Chichester	Y
1732	Sevenoaks	Y
1430	North Cave	Y
1539	Kendal	Y
1992	Lea Valley	Y
1227	Canterbury	Y
1784	Staines	Y
1472	Grimsby	Y
1803	Torquay	Y
1903	Worthing	Y
1324	Falkirk	Y
1277	Brentwood	Y
1454	Chipping Sodbury	Y
1480	Huntingdon	Y



1270	Crewe	Y
1686	Llanidloes	Y
1536	Kettering	Y
1744	St Helens	Y
1892	Tunbridge	Y
1823	Taunton	Y
1387	Dumfries	Y
1323	Eastbourne	Y
1438	Stevenage	Y
1422	Halifax	Y
1768	Penrith	Y
1372	Esher	Y
1460	Chard	Y
1975	Alford (Aberdeen)	Y
1443	Pontypridd	Y
1339	Aboyne	Y
1386	Evesham	Y
1233	Ashford	Y
1743	Shrewsbury	Y
1437	Clynderwen	Y
1236	Coatbridge	Y
1624	Isle of Man	Y

The following Geographic Code Areas shall also be added to Appendix A of the Plan immediately, alongside those Geographic Code Areas listed in Table 1, if Option1 is agreed. If Option 2 is agreed the following Geographic Codes Areas will be added to the plan in January 2008.

Area Code	Geographic Area name	Conservation Status
1229	Millom	Y
1851	Great Bernera	Y
1847	Tongue	Y
1964	Patrington	Y
1890	Coldstream	Y
1964	Hornsea	Y
1851	Stornaway	Y
1509	Loughborough	Y
1890	Ayton	Y
1506	Bathgate	Y
1325	Darlington	Y
1462	Hitchin	Y
1339	Ballater	Y
1283	Burton-on-Trent	Y
1403	Horsham	Y
1299	Buxton	Y
1922	Walsall	Y
1978	Wrexham	Y
1543	Cannock	Y
1547	Thurso	Y
1383	Dunfermline	Y
1727	St Albans	Y
1738	Perth	Y
1278	Bridgewater	Y
1424	Hastings	Y
1444	Haywards Heath	Y
1455	Hinckley	Y
1275	Clevedon	Y
1592	Kirkcaldy	Y
1562	Kidderminster	Y
1975	Strathdon	Y
1977	Pontefract	Y

The following changes shall be added to the numbering plan Part A. The changes are set out in bold for easy reference:

0844 <b>and 0843</b>	Special Services basic rate: charged at up to and including 5p per minute or per call for BT Customers, set by Terminating Communications Provider inclusive of value added tax (the price charged by other Originating Communications Providers may vary).
0871, <b>0872 and 0873</b>	Special Services higher rate: charged at up to and including 10p per minute or per call for BT Customers, set by Terminating Communications Provider inclusive of value added tax (the price charged by other Originating Communications Providers may vary).

The following changes shall be made to Appendix A of the Plan. The changes are set out in bold.

Area Code	Geographic Area name	Conservation Status
023	Southampton (80 <b>and 81</b> ) Portsmouth (92 <b>and 93</b> )	
028	Belfast (90 <b>and 95</b> )	

## Annex 6

# Notification of proposals under section 49(4) of the Act

## Schedule

### *Draft Direction under paragraph 17.9(a) of the General Condition 17*

#### **WHEREAS-**

- A. paragraph 17.9(a) of the Condition provides that when applying for an Allocation or reservation of Telephone Numbers, the Communications Provider shall use an appropriate application form as directed by the Director from time to time as he thinks fit;
- B. by virtue of the Transitional Provisions, references to the Director in General Condition 17 should be read as references to OFCOM.
- C. for the reasons set out in the Statement accompanying this Direction OFCOM are satisfied that the application form in the Annex to this Direction is appropriate for use by Communications Providers when applying for an Allocation or reservation of Telephone Numbers;
- D. for the reasons set out in the Statement accompanying this Direction OFCOM are satisfied that, in accordance with section 49(2) of the Act, this Direction is:
 

objectively justifiable in relation to the networks, services, facilities, apparatus or directories to which it relates;

not such as to discriminate unduly against particular persons or against a particular description of persons;

proportionate to what it is intended to achieve; and

in relation to what it is intended to achieve, transparent.
- E. for the reasons set out in the Statement accompanying this Direction OFCOM are satisfied that they have acted in accordance with the relevant duties set out in sections 3 and 4 of the Act;
- F. a notification of a proposal to give this Direction was given under section 49(4) of the Act on 6 March 2007 (the 'Notification');
- G. a copy of the Notification was sent to the Secretary of State in accordance with section 50(1)(b) of the Act;
- H. in the Notification and accompanying consultation document OFCOM invited representations about any of the proposals therein by 5pm 5 April 2007;
- I. by virtue of section 49(9) of the Act, OFCOM may give effect to the proposal set out in the Notification, with or without Modification, only if-

- i. they have considered every representation about the proposal that is made to them within the period specified in the notification; and
- ii. they have had regard to every international obligation of the United Kingdom (if any) which has been notified to them for this purpose by the Secretary of State;
- iii. OFCOM received responses to the Notification and have considered every such representation made to them in respect of the proposals set out in the Notification and accompanying consultation document and the Secretary of State has not notified OFCOM of any international obligation of the United Kingdom for this purpose;

**K.** In considering whether to make the modification proposed in the Notification OFCOM have complied with all relevant requirements set out in section 49 of the Act;

**NOW, THEREFORE, OFCOM PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 17.9(a) OF THE CONDITION, HEREBY DIRECT THAT-**

1. OFCOM in accordance with Condition 17.9(a) hereby direct that for the time being the application form in the Annex to this Direction shall be used by Communications Providers when applying for an Allocation of Telephone Numbers starting '08' for Special Services.

In this Direction-

'the Act' means the Communications Act 2003;

'Allocation' shall have the same meaning as in the Condition;

'Communications Provider' shall have the same meaning as in the Condition;

'the Condition' means General Condition 17 of the General Conditions of Entitlement set by the Director on 22 July 2003 pursuant to section 45 of the Act by way of publication of a Notification pursuant to section 48(1) of the Act;

'the Director' means the Director-General of Telecommunications as appointed under section 1 of the Telecommunications Act 1984;

'OFCOM' means the Office of Communications;

'Telephone Number' shall have the same meaning as in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22 July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act;

'Transitional Provisions' means sections 408 and 411 of the Act, the Communications Act 2003 (Commencement No.1) Order 2003 and the Office of Communications Act 2002 (Commencement No.3) and Communications Act 2003 (Commencement No 2) Order 2003.

3. Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them. Otherwise, any word or expression shall have the same meaning as it has-
  - i. in the National Telephone Numbering Plan published by Ofcom on 6 September 2004 pursuant to section 56 of the Act;
  - ii. if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) above, and only if the

context so permits, in General Condition 17 (entitled 'Allocation, Adoption and Use of Telephone Numbers') in Part 2 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22 July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act;

iii. if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) and (ii) above, and only if the context so permits, in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22 July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act; and

iv. if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i), (ii) and (iii) above, and only if the context so permits, in the Act.

4. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply as if this Direction were an Act of Parliament.
5. Headings and titles shall be disregarded.
6. This direction takes effect on the date it is published.

Signed by Neil Buckley

Competition Policy Director

A person authorised on behalf of Ofcom under paragraph 18 of the Schedule to the Office of Communications Act 2003

XX XXXXXX 2007

Annex to Schedule (setting out in bold proposed modification to the S1, S8 and S18 application forms.  
The remainder of the S18 application form is unchanged)

Form S1



#### Definitions and Interpretation

1. Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them. Otherwise, any word or expression shall have the same meaning as it has -
  - i) in the National Telephone Numbering Plan published by Ofcom from time to time pursuant to section 56 of the Communications Act 2003 (the 'Act');
  - ii) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) above, and only if the context so permits, in General Condition 17 (entitled 'Allocation, Adoption and Use of Telephone Numbers') in Part 2 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act;
  - lii) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) and (ii) above, and only if the context so permits, in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act; and
  - iv) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i), (ii) and (iii) above, and only if the context so permits, in the Act.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply as if this Application Form were an Act of Parliament.

(Applicants should ensure that all sections have been completed where relevant – incomplete Application Forms may not be processed within the 3-week deadline).

1. Your reference (optional):	
2. Applicant details and date of application:  Your name, company name, address, direct telephone, direct fax, direct e-mail, mobile.  (Where you are acting on behalf of a Communications Provider (eg a consultant, solicitor, etc), and if you have not previously supplied one, you should enclose a letter from that Communications Provider confirming that you are authorised to represent it).	Date of application:

<p>3. Communications Provider details:</p> <p>If different from 2. above (eg where you are a consultant, solicitor, etc), provide the name and address of the Communications Provider on behalf of whom you are applying for Telephone Numbers.</p>	
<p>4. Declaration of 'Public Electronic Communications Network' or 'Public Electronic Communications Service'</p> <p>The information requested in Annex A helps Ofcom to assess your eligibility to be Allocated Telephone Numbers.</p> <p>If you are a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network:</p> <p>confirm whether you have previously supplied the information requested in Annex A (or information equivalent to it), to Ofcom's Numbering Unit; or</p> <p>if not, you <u>must</u> complete in full all relevant questions in Annex A and submit it along with this form.</p> <p>If you have previously supplied the information in Annex A, then move onto the next question – you do not need to submit Annex A with this form.</p> <p>If you are a provider of Public Electronic Communications Services:</p> <p>you <b>MUST</b> complete all relevant questions in Annex A each time you apply for Telephone Numbers and submit it with this form.</p>	<p>(For providers of Public Electronic Communications Networks, please Ensure you <u>have</u> previously supplied the information requested, before you confirm this – your application may be rejected if this is not the case).</p>



**5. Telephone Numbers required:**

In the table below, you should give a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice of number block for each Geographic Area Code applied for in case the block(s) you have selected are not available at the time the application is processed. Each block you select should be, where possible, from an 'open decade' i.e. a range of 10 blocks starting with the same number e.g. 2X, where at least 2 of the blocks are shown as 'Allocated'. A maximum of 10 blocks should be entered on this Application Form. A new Form S1 should be completed for further blocks.

		Name of Geographic Area?  e.g. Preston, Glasgow, etc.	Code - first 4 digits after initial '0'  e.g. 1772 (Preston), 1412 (Glasgow), etc.  (SABC)	Next 2 digits of number  e.g. 34  (DE)	<sup>7</sup> Next digit of number (F digit/s) –  Only for Conservation Areas  (F)	What is the name, and the National Signalling Point Code of the switch on which the number block will be situated? (NSPC required ONLY for Interconnection switches)	Planned 'In-Service' Date  (N.B. applications should not be submitted more than 6 months prior to in-service date)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 1 <sup>st</sup> 12 months  (%)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 2 <sup>nd</sup> 12 months  (% cumulative)
1 <sup>st</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	Middlesbrough	1642	22	5	Middlesbrough3, 15678	early Dec <b>2007</b>	55	25
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	Middlesbrough	1642	22	6	Middlesbrough3, 15678	early Dec <b>2007</b>	55	25
2 <sup>nd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	Preston	1772	34	2, 4, and 7	Preston1, 12763	mid Oct <b>2007</b>	20	50
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	Preston	1772	65	2, 4, and 7	Preston1, 12763	mid Oct <b>2007</b>	20	50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	Glasgow	1412	81		Glasgow2, 16743	end Nov <b>2007</b>	48	21
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	Glasgow	1415	30		Glasgow2, 16743	end Nov <b>2007</b>	48	21
1 <sup>st</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
2 <sup>nd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
3 <sup>rd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								

<sup>7</sup> For Conservation areas, you should select the F-digit/s of the 1000 number blocks you require i.e. for each 1000 numbers required you should state the first digit of each 1000 numbers. Please refer to the National Telephone Numbering Plan for full details of Conservation Areas. Standard areas are allocated in units of 10000 but shall only be used in units of 1000. F-digits 0, 1 and 9 are generally used for Telephone Numbers assigned to residential customers. Applicants should select F-digits 0, 1 and 9 where residential numbers are required, leaving the other F-digits: 2-8 for business numbers.

5. continued

		Name of Geographic Area e.g. Preston, Glasgow, etc.	Code – first 4 digits after initial '0' e.g. 1772 (Preston), 1412 (Glasgow) etc.  (SABC)	Next 2 digits of number e.g. 34  (DE)	<sup>1</sup> Next digit of number (F digit/s) – Only for Conservation Areas  (F)	What is the name, and the National Signalling Point Code of the switch on which the number block will be situated?  (Point Code required ONLY for Interconnection switches)	Planned 'In-Service' Date  (N.B. applications should not be submitted more than 6 months prior to in-service date)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 1 <sup>st</sup> 12 months  (%)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 2 <sup>nd</sup> 12 months  (% cumulative)
4 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
5 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
6 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
7 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
8 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
9 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								
10 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice								
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice								

<p><b>6. Service and Market</b></p> <p>For each of the number blocks applied for above, give a brief description of the type of Public Electronic Communications Service for which the Telephone Numbers applied for will be Adopted, and the market to be served by the service e.g. DDI for business customers in Preston, calling-card services for customers in Glasgow, etc.</p>	
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<p><b>7. Adoption of existing Telephone Number blocks:</b></p> <p>For each of the number blocks applied for above, you should provide details, in the table below, of any other number blocks with the same Geographic Area Code, that are currently on the same switch/processor – consistent with its duty in the Communications Act 2003 to secure best use of numbers Ofcom requires a justification for applying for another number block on a switch where there may be non-utilised numbers.</p> <p>If any blocks applied for are for a new switch i.e. it is the first block of that Geographic Area Code on the switch, you should state this below and you do not have to complete the table for that block.</p>	
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Name of Geographic Area  e.g. Preston, London, etc.	Name, and the National Signalling Point Code of the switch (NSPC required ONLY for Interconnection switches)	Geographic Area Code and next 2 digits of number  (SABC) (DE)		Next digit of number -  ONLY for blocks Allocated at 1k (1000 number) level (F)	Total Numbers Allocated to End-Users: ie, in use or ported out (Numbers or %)	Total Numbers not in use, but contracted out (Numbers or %)
Middlesbrough	Middlesbrough3, 15678	1642	34	4	66%	20%
Middlesbrough	Middlesbrough3, 15678	1642	36		82%	5%
Preston	Preston1, 12763	1772	24	6	85%	5%
Preston	Preston1, 12763	1772	28		87.5%	2%
Glasgow	Glasgow2, 16743	1412	54		89%	3%
Glasgow	Glasgow2, 16743	1415	64		55%	15%

(You should e-mail this application form to [numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk) )

## Form S1 - Annex A

<p>A1. Confirmation of Status:</p> <p>Ofcom generally only Allocates Telephone Numbers to providers of Public Electronic Communications Networks.</p> <p>Ofcom may also Allocate numbers, where number resource implications do not preclude allocation, to providers of a Public Electronic Communications Service. Ofcom would also normally expect to see that the provider has arrangements in place for its service to be carried over a network, and, where appropriate, would usually expect the provider to have taken reasonable steps to seek a sub-allocation of Telephone Numbers of the type applied for prior to making the application.</p> <p>Providers of Public Electronic Communications Networks</p> <p><b>Ofcom needs certain information from you in order to determine whether or not you are a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network. You will only need to provide this information with your first application.</b></p> <p>Please provide details of:</p> <p>a) the Electronic Communications Network on which the Telephone Numbers applied for are intended to be Adopted;</p> <p>(a diagram may be useful to assist Ofcom in assessing your eligibility for Telephone Numbers)</p> <p>the Electronic Communications Service which you are intending provide over that network.</p> <p>Providers of Public Electronic Communications Services</p> <p>In order to determine whether or not you are a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Service, Ofcom needs certain information from you. Please provide details of:</p> <p>c) the Electronic Communications Service which you are intending to provide with the Telephone Numbers applied for. Please also provide details of the network on which the numbers you are applying for will be Adopted.</p>	
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<p><b>A2. <u>Applications from providers of Public Electronic Communications Services</u></b></p> <p>If you are applying for Telephone Numbers as a provider of Public Electronic Communications Services, where appropriate Ofcom would usually expect your company to have already taken reasonable steps to obtain a sub-allocation of Telephone Numbers of the type you are applying for from a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network.</p> <p>a) Have you taken steps to obtain a sub-allocation of Telephone Numbers of the type for which you are applying? If not, would you please provide a justification for that; and</p> <p>b) If you have taken steps, would you provide a brief description/explanation of the steps you have taken, and state why you did not obtain a sub-allocation?</p>	
<p><b>A3. Interconnection arrangements</b></p> <p>Describe your Interconnection arrangements (or those of the provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network on whose network the Telephone Numbers applied for would be Adopted), any, with other Communications Providers – a simple network diagram may be useful.</p>	

(You should e-mail this application form to [numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk) )

**Ofcom**  
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS  
**SPECIAL SERVICES APPLICATION - NUMBERS STARTING '08'**

<b>Service Type:</b>	<b>Number range starting:</b>	<b>Number block size:</b>
Freephone Numbers	0800 XXXX	1000
	080 80XX to 080 87XX	10,000
Special Services basic rate: up to and including 5p for BT customers (non-internet)	0844 2XX to 0844 9XX and <b>0843 XXX</b>	10,000
Special Services basic rate: BT's Standard Local Call Retail Price for BT customers	0845 XXX	10,000
Special Services higher rate: up to and including 10p for BT customers (non-internet)	0871 2XX to 0871 9XX, <b>0872 xxx and 0873 XXX</b>	10,000
Special Services higher rate: BT's Standard National Call Retail Price for BT customers	0870 XXX	10,000
Internet Services Free to Caller	0808 90XX	1000
Internet Services Free to Caller – Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination (FRIACO) product	0808 99XX	1000
Internet Services incorporating un-metered access up to and including 5p for BT customers	0844 04XX	1000
Non 'BT Discount Scheme' - Internet Services incorporating un-metered access up to and including 5p for BT customers	0844 00XX	1000
Internet Services metered access up to and including 5ppm for BT customers	0844 09XX	1000
Non 'BT Discount Scheme' - Internet Services metered access up to and including 5ppm for BT customers	0844 05XX	1000
Internet Services incorporating un-metered access up to and including 10p for BT customers	0871 04XX	1000
Non 'BT Discount Scheme' - Internet Services incorporating un-metered access up to and including 10p for BT customers	0871 01XX	1000
Internet Services metered access up to and including 10ppm for BT customers	0871 09XX	1000
Non 'BT Discount Scheme' - Internet Services metered access up to and including 10ppm for BT customers	0871 05XX	1000
Internet for Schools (1 block required per Service Provider)	0820 XXXX	10,000
Inbound Routing Codes	08993 XX to 08999 XX	10,000

## Definitions and Interpretation

1. Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them. Otherwise, any word or expression shall have the same meaning as it has-
  - i) in the National Telephone Numbering Plan published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 pursuant to section 56 of the Communications Act 2003 (the 'Act');
  - ii) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) above, and only if the context so permits, in General Condition 17 (entitled 'Allocation, Adoption and Use of Telephone Numbers') in Part 2 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act;
  - iii) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) and (ii) above, and only if the context so permits, in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act; and
  - iv) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i), (ii) and (iii) above, and only if the context so permits, in the Act.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply as if this Application Form were an Act of Parliament.
3. FRIACO (Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination) means the provision of Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination via a wholesale unmetered internet access product.

(Applicants should ensure that all sections have been completed where relevant – incomplete Application Forms may not be processed within the 3-week deadline).

<p>1. Your reference (optional):</p>	
<p>2. Applicant details and date of application:</p> <p>Your name, company name, address, direct telephone, direct fax, direct e-mail, mobile.</p> <p>(Where you are acting on behalf of a Communications Provider (eg a consultant, solicitor, etc), and if you have not previously supplied one, you should enclose a letter from that Communications Provider confirming that you are authorised to represent it).</p>	<p>Date of application:</p>
<p>3. Communications Provider details:</p> <p>If different from 2. above (eg where you are a consultant, solicitor, etc), provide the name and address of the Communications Provider on behalf of whom you are applying for Telephone Numbers.</p>	

<p>4. Declaration of 'Public Electronic Communications Network' or 'Public Electronic Communications Service'</p> <p>The information requested in Annex A helps Ofcom to assess your eligibility to be allocated Telephone Numbers.</p> <p>If you are a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network:</p> <p>confirm whether you have previously supplied the information requested in Annex A (or information equivalent to it), to Ofcom's Numbering Unit; or</p> <p>if not, you <u>must</u> complete in full all relevant questions in Annex A and submit it along with this form.</p> <p>If you have previously supplied the information in Annex A, then move onto the next question – you do not need to submit Annex A with this form.</p> <p>If you are a provider of Public Electronic Communications Services:</p> <p>you <b>MUST</b> complete all relevant questions in Annex A each time you apply for Telephone Numbers and submit it with this form.</p>	<p>(For providers of Public Electronic Communications Networks, please ensure you <u>have</u> previously supplied the information requested, before you confirm this – your application may be rejected if this is not the case).</p>
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**5. Telephone Numbers required:**

When completing the table below, you should give a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice for each type of Telephone Number block applied for in case the block you've applied for is not available at the time the application is processed;

where applying for **0844 and 0871 (non-internet)** blocks, select those within the appropriate tariff as indicated on the web site. If there are no available blocks, you should indicate this below alongside the tariff you require (note that from a certain date – of which Ofcom will advise you – tariffs for 0844 numbers will no longer appear on the web site but you will still need to indicate the tariff you intend to use for BT customers for these blocks). The Numbering Unit will open a new range and then contact you; and

i) ensure that a maximum of 15 blocks are entered on this Application Form. A new Form S8 should be completed for further blocks.

		Number block Type? e.g. Freephone, Internet Freephone, BT Standard Local Call Retail Price, BT Standard National Call Retail Price, Internet FRIACO, etc. (state which)	Code - first 4 digits after init '0' e.g. 8004 - Freephone, 8456 – BT Standard Local Call Retail Price etc. (SABC)	Next 2 digits of number e.g. 34 (DE)	Next digit of number (F digit) only required for blocks that are issued in blocks of 1000 numbers – see top of Form (F)	Tariff for each number block (including VAT): for 0844 and 0871 (non-internet) blocks show tariff (to nearest 1p for BT customers) from those tariffs on website	Confirm if BT Discount Scheme or Non 'BT Discount Scheme' (where relevant) (see Ofcom Direction)	Planned 'In-Service' Date (applications should not be submitted more than 6 months prior to in-service date)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 12 months (%)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 2nd 12 months (% cumulative)
e.g. 1 <sup>st</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	Freephone	8006	21	3	free to caller		mid Oct 2003	20	80
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	Freephone	8005	36	2	free to caller		mid Oct 2003	20	80
e.g. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	Internet Freephone	8089	02	2	free to caller		beg. Sep 2003	40	100
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	Internet Freephone	8089	05	5	free to caller		beg. Sep 2003	40	100
e.g. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	Up to and including 10p for BT customers (Non-Internet)	8442	34		4ppm	Non 'BT Discount Scheme'	end Nov 2003	15	90
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	Up to and including 10p for BT customers (Non-Internet)	8443	33		4ppm	Non 'BT Discount Scheme'	end Nov 2003	15	90
1 <sup>st</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
2 <sup>nd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
3 <sup>rd</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
4 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
5 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									

## 5. co5. Continued

		Number block Type? e.g. Freephone, Internet Freephone, BT Standard Local Call Retail Price, BT Standard National Call Retail Price, Internet FRIACO, etc. (state which)	Code - first 4 digits after initial '0' e.g. 8004 - Freephone, 8456 - BT Standard Local Call Retail Price etc. (SABC)	Next 2 digits of number e.g. 34 (DE)	Next digit of number (F digit) only required for blocks that are issued in blocks of 1000 numbers – see top of Form (F)	Tariff for each number block (including VAT): for 0844 and 087 (non-internet) blocks show tariff (to nearest 1p for BT customers) from those tariffs on website	Confirm if BT Discount Scheme or Non 'BT Discount Scheme' (where relevant) (see Oftel Direction)	Planned 'In-Service' Date (applications should not be submitted more than 6 months prior to in-service date)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 12 months (%)	Forecast of expected Adoption in 2nd 12 months (% cumulative)
6 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
7 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
8 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
9 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
10 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
11 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
12 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
13 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
14 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									
15 <sup>th</sup> Block	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice									
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice									

## Maintaining the supply of telephone numbers

<p><b>6. Service and Market:</b></p> <p>For each of the Telephone Number blocks applied for above, give a brief description of the type of Public Electronic Communications Service for which the Telephone Numbers applied for will be Adopted, and the market to be served by the service e.g. calling-card for UK customers, e-fax, internet access, etc.</p>	
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<p><b>7. Adoption of existing Telephone Number blocks:</b></p> <p>For each type of Telephone Number block applied for above, you should provide details, in the table below, of any other number blocks in the same category (and at the same tariff – where relevant) that you have been allocated to date - consistent with its duty in the Communications Act 2003 to secure best use of numbers Ofcom requires a justification for applying for further numbering capacity where there may be non-utilised numbers.</p>	
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Number block Type? e.g. Freephone, Internet Freephone, BT Standard Local Call Retail Price, BT Standard National Call Retail Price, Internet FRIACO, etc. (state which)	Code – first 6 or 7 digits after initial '0' – show SABC DE F (see top of Form for number of digits to specify) (SABC) (DE) (F)	Tariff for BT customers (only needs to be entered for 0844 and 0871 (non-internet) blocks)	Confirm if BT Discount Scheme or Non 'BT Discount Scheme' applies to the block (where relevant)(see <a href="#">Ofcom Direction</a> )	Total Numbers Allocated to End Users: ie, in use or ported out (Numbers or %)	Total Numbers not in use but contracted out (Numbers or %)
Freephone	8005 28 6			942	8
Internet Services metered access up to and including 5p for BT customers	8440 95 4			860	35
Special Services up to and including 10p for BT customers (non-internet)	8446 23	4ppm	Non 'BT Discount Scheme'	6540	2050
Local Rate	8459 56			7560	180

(You should e-mail this application form to [numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk) )

## Form S8 - Annex A

### A1. Confirmation of Status:

Ofcom generally only Allocates Telephone Numbers to providers of Public Electronic Communications Networks.

Ofcom may also Allocate numbers, where number resource implications do not preclude allocation, to providers of a Public Electronic Communications Service. Ofcom would also normally expect to see that the provider has arrangements in place for its service to be carried over a network, and, where appropriate, would usually expect the provider to have taken reasonable steps to seek a sub-allocation of Telephone Numbers of the type applied for prior to making the application.

#### Providers of Public Electronic Communications Networks

**Ofcom needs certain information from you in order to determine whether or not you are a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network. You will only need to provide this information with your first application.**

Please provide details of:

a) the Electronic Communications Network on which the Telephone Numbers applied for are intended to be Adopted;

(a diagram may be useful to assist Ofcom in assessing your eligibility for Telephone Numbers)

the Electronic Communications Service which you are intending to provide over that network.

#### Providers of Public Electronic Communications Services

In order to determine whether or not you are a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Service, Ofcom needs certain information from you. Please provide details of:

c) the Electronic Communications Service which you are intending to provide with the Telephone Numbers applied for. Please also provide details of the network on which the numbers you are applying for will be Adopted.

<p><b>A2. <u>Applications from providers of Public Electronic Communications Services</u></b></p> <p>If you are applying for Telephone Numbers as a provider of Public Electronic Communications Services, where appropriate Ofcom would usually expect your company to have already taken reasonable steps to obtain a sub-allocation of Telephone Numbers of the type you are applying for from a provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network.</p> <p>a) Have you taken steps to obtain a sub-allocation of Telephone Numbers of the type for which you are applying? If not, would you please provide a justification for that; and</p> <p>b) If you have taken steps, would you provide a brief description/explanation of the steps you have taken, and state whether you did or did not obtain a sub-allocation?</p>	
<p><b>A3. Interconnection arrangements</b></p> <p>Describe your Interconnection arrangements (or those of the provider of a Public Electronic Communications Network on whose network the Telephone Numbers applied for would be Adopted), any, with other Communications Providers – a simple network diagram may be useful.</p>	

(You should e-mail this application form to [numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:numbering.applications@ofcom.org.uk) )



## **RESELLER IDENTIFICATION (“RID”) CODE APPLICATION**

Reseller Identification (“RID”) Codes are three character alphabetic codes that are used to provide information to the Communications Providers and End-users about which person is providing Carrier Pre-Selection (“CPS”), **Wholesale Line Rental (“WLR”) or Local Loop Unbundling (“LLU”)** to End-users.

The RID will be included in the electronic order for **CPS, WLR or LLU** as appropriate.

RIDs are allocated from the range ‘AAB’ to ‘ZZZ’ (i.e. there are 17,575 combinations).

### Definitions and Interpretation

1. Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, words or expressions shall have the meaning assigned to them. Otherwise, any word or expression shall have the same meaning as it has-
  - i) in the National Telephone Numbering Plan published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 pursuant to section 56 of the Communications Act 2003 (the ‘Act’);
  - ii) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) above, and only if the context so permits, in General Condition 17 (entitled ‘Allocation, Adoption and Use of Telephone Numbers’) in Part 2 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act;
  - iii) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i) and (ii) above, and only if the context so permits, in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule to the Notification published by the Director on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 under section 48(1) of the Act; and
  - iv) if, and only if, it has no meaning ascribed as mentioned in (i), (ii) and (iii) above, and only if the context so permits, in the Act.
2. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply as if this Application Form were an Act of Parliament.
3. FRIACO (Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination) means the provision of Flat Rate Internet Access Call Origination via a wholesale unmetered internet access product.

(Applicants should ensure that all sections have been completed where relevant – incomplete Application Forms may not be processed within the 3-week deadline).