

Response From Doctor Phone

Question 1:What are your views on the strategic principles that Ofcom proposes to apply to its numbering policy decisions? : No views

Question 2:What do you think are consumers? key current views on numbering, how do you think those views will change, and how should Ofcom?s current decisions take those changes into account? : Consumers dont understand UK phone numbers anymore. US phone numbers are simple to understand. Why are ours so hard to understand with variable lengths.

Question 3:What do you think are the main ways in which technological developments will change the focus of numbering policy decisions, and how should Ofcom?s current decisions take these developments into account? : Since most people under 25 only have a mobile phone and think land lines are the equivalent of record players it seems very silly not to allow a mobile phone to be attached to a place based code and to be given a code of its own "07"

With Skype and IP based networking why cant we have names and internet based domain URI's not numbers.

Question 4:Do you have any comments on Ofcom?s assessment of the current challenges to the Numbering Plan, in terms of a) number availability, b) transparency, or c) consumer abuses? : No

Question 5:Do you agree that the extension of conservation measures is the best approach to take before the impact of NGNs eases the pressure on geographic number demand?: No

Question 6:Do you agree that the use of overlay codes is the best backstop approach in the event that extended conservation measures are not sufficient to meet demand for geographic numbers?: No

Question 7:Do you agree that Ofcom should continue to respect the geographic identity of numbers until consumer understanding of the impact of technology change evolves further, and what do you consider is the best way to develop that consumer understanding? : No geographic identity is a nonsense. It has no real relationship to billing or cost. People understand websites which are dot com's could be located in any place. Why should phone numbers be different?

Question 8:Do you agree with Ofcom?s proposal to open a new ?03? number range for non-geographic, non-revenue sharing services? : No, what is the point of it. All numbers are inherently non-geographic these days when you can be calling into an office number and put through to a call centre on the other side of the world

Question 9:How should the ?03? range be structured, in terms of tariffs and services ? : Dont see the need for 03 at all.

Question 10:How should the ?08? range be structured, in terms of tariffs and services?: 08 should be free. Not mixed free and premium

Question 11: Which broad approach should Ofcom take to structuring the '09' range, and if a re-structured '09' range is preferred how would you arrange the different types of '09' services (e.g., according to price per minute, price per call, inclusion of adult content)? : 09 can be premium of course.

Question 12: Should any specific PRS service categories be identified or segregated in order that parents can block access by their children (e.g., sexually explicit content, gambling)? Is there merit in having a general 'adults only' classification, including a range of services to which access might be restricted on the grounds of content, or might consumers wish to apply different rules for different types of content? : Rights should not be number based. Some other mechanism should be found for rating content.

Question 13: Are there any practical means by which the Numbering Plan could provide improved mobile tariff transparency? : All calls could be free like Skype.

Question 14: Do you agree that personal numbers should have a tariff ceiling (or recorded message) to restore trust in those numbers? If so, what level, and should that ceiling include the cost of recorded messages? : No

Question 15: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposals to move personal numbers (with the same consumer protection provisions) to the '06' range and to pursue the direct allocation of numbers to end users as proposed at some point in the future? : No

Question 16: Do you have any comments on the use of the 05 number range? : Whats the point of reserving a set of numbers. It sounds like you cant think of something to do with them

Question 17: Do you agree that Ofcom's overall proposals for a future Numbering Plan are coherent and comprehensive, and do you have any comments on the timescales in which the changes should be implemented ? : No

I sincerely believe this is a stupid ideal that doesnt exactly move the world forward.

Question 18: Do you agree with the principle of using consumer protection tests in numbering in order to limit consumer abuses, as long as the relevant legal tests are met? Do you have any suggestions for what tests would be appropriate or any conditions that should be met to pass such tests? : No

Question 19: Do you support the proposal to extend the tariffing provisions of the Numbering Plan so that they apply to customers of all providers on all types of network? : No

Question 20: How do you think the new Numbering Plan could be effectively communicated to consumers? : I think that after promising that the big number would be the last time this would need to happen in our generation this is a tough thing to effectively communicate.

Question 21:What are your views on Ofcom's analysis and the different options for number charging ?: None

Question 22:Which, if any, numbers might appropriately be allocated using a value-based charge ?: No opinion. Let the market decide

Question 23:Do you have any other comments on Ofcom's proposals for numbering as discussed in Section 5, or any other suggestions for how Ofcom might revise the current Numbering Plan or its administration ?: No

Question 24:What do you think of Ofcom's proposed general approach to managing geographic numbers?: There is no need for geographic numbers anymore.

Question 25:Do you have detailed evidence or suggestions on the variables likely to influence demand for geographic numbers, how those variables will change over time, and how Ofcom should develop a demand model?: No

Question 26:Do you agree with the specific proposal for how to extend conservation measures, including the extension to areas with a number shortage predicted in the next five (rather than two) years?: No

Question 27:Do you consider there to be any upper limit, in terms of technical feasibility, on the number of areas in which conservation measures could be used ?: No

Question 28:Do you agree with Ofcom's assessment of the impact of conservation measures on stakeholders ?: no opinion

Question 29:Do you agree that Ofcom should pursue these additional ways to improve number utilisation and, if we do, how would stakeholders be impacted and what practical issues are involved ?: No opinion

Question 30:What are your views on overlay codes, and Ofcom's assessment of them, as a fallback option to increase number supply? What should be the maximum number of areas where overlay codes are introduced?: No opinion

Question 31:What are your views on closing the scheme, and Ofcom's assessment of it, as a fallback option to increase number supply?: No opinion

Question 32:What are your views on wide area codes, and Ofcom's assessment of them, as a fallback option to increase number supply?: No opinion

Question 33:Might wide area codes be appropriate in regions with a strong identity and, if so, which specific regions are suitable for wide area codes?: No opinion

Question 34:Do you agree with Ofcom's assessment of the problems with current 08 and 09 in terms of information clarity and consumer perceptions?: No opinion

Question 35: Which of these options for current 08 services do you think is best in terms of a) increasing consumer transparency and b) minimising the costs of restructuring the 08 range ?: 08 should all be free

Question 36: How might early migration to the 03 range be encouraged?: No opinion

Question 37: Is it more important to indicate price per minute or price per call, and does this vary for different types of PRS service? What granularity of PRS tariff information should be given to consumers by the Numbering Plan?: Minute based pricing is unsustainable to the net generation

Question 38: Should there be any PRS number ranges with no tariff ceiling?: Yes

Question 39: What is the typical turnover of 09 numbers, and what does this mean for migration timescales to a new 09 Plan? How could Ofcom structure the 09 range or take other steps to promote voluntary migration of 09 services ?: No opinion

Question 40: Do you agree that that part of the 07 range which is currently unused (071-075) should be reserved for mobile services, with the aim of establishing 07 as a mobile brand??: First of all what does it mean to have a mobile brand?

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I would like my home phone to be a mobile, wherever I am.

Question 41: Should Ofcom reserve specific sub-ranges within the 071-075 range for new mobile multimedia services, in the interests of promoting consumer awareness and tariff transparency, and if so how ?: No

Question 42: Do you support the use of 100,000-number blocks in allocating mobile numbers to new mobile voice providers ?: No

Question 43: Based on the above analysis, if Ofcom were to introduce a charge ceiling on calls to 070 numbers, which of the following levels should be adopted: No opinion

Question 44: Would a requirement to make tariff information clearly available to purchasers of personal numbering services at the point of sale, either in addition to, or instead of a call ceiling, be an effective means of providing tariff transparency on personal numbers?: No opinion

Question 45: If a new sub-range is made available for personal numbering services, how long should the current ?070? sub-range remain available for existing providers, in order to minimise migration costs ?: No opinion

Question 46: What issues do you think would need to be resolved before Ofcom makes individual numbers available for direct allocation to end users?: No opinion

Question 47: What do you consider to be the main strengths and weaknesses of the current rules-based system of UK number allocation?: No opinion

Question 48: Do you agree with these principles for number charging?: No opinion

Question 49: What are your views on Ofcom's assessment of the issues to be considered in setting and reviewing number charges? For example, should other issues be considered in developing charging proposals ?: No opinion

Question 50: Do you agree that charging for numbers could disincentivise economically inefficient behaviour, and incentivise economically efficient utilisation ?: No opinion

Question 51: What internal changes would communications providers have to make, and at what cost, to support charging for numbers? Would these changes be preferable to earlier and more widespread use of conservation measures and (limited) changes to increase geographic number supply?: No opinion

Question 52: How might existing number allocation rules be reduced if charging for numbers was introduced ?: No opinion

Question 53: What are your views on this illustrative charging mechanism, and would you suggest any changes or alternatives to it ?: No opinion

Question 54: How would charging for number blocks affect consumers ?: No opinion

Question 55: What impact do you think charging for numbers would have on sub-allocation? Should Ofcom encourage or facilitate sub-allocation and, if charging were introduced, would changes be needed to the process of suballocation to facilitate trading?: No opinion

Question 56: Which types of consumer abuse do you think Ofcom should particularly attempt to address through its numbering policy decisions?: No opinion

Question 57: Which number ranges and types of originating communications provider do you think should be covered by an extension of the Numbering Plan's tariffing provisions? What practical issues are involved, and how would this vary according to the number ranges and service providers involved?: No opinion

Question 58:What do you think of the potential conditions proposed by Ofcom for inclusion in a consumer protection test for number allocation, including the proposals that numbers should not be provided to anyone with a particular track record of persistent and/or serious consumer abuse ?: No opinion

Question 59:Are there any other circumstances in which it may be appropriate for Ofcom to refuse number allocations ?: No opinion

Question 60:Would you support the use of a consumer protection test as a basis for withdrawing number allocations? What kind of considerations should Ofcom apply in any such test, and what would be the practical issues involved in applying such a test ?: No opinion

Question 61:What consumer abuses do you think might occur in the future, and what steps might Ofcom take now in its numbering policy in order to reduce the potential for such abuses?: No opinion

Additional Comments: When Tim Berners Lee invented HTTP he changed the way we think about accessing resources. That was in 1994 and you could really do with taking note of the internet and getting away from numbers altogether

Have you thought of using IP and DNS instead of numbering?