

Response From Local Action Group

**Cover Sheet for response to an Ofcom
Consultation**

BASIC DETAILS

Consultation title:	Telephone Numbering - Safeguarding the future of numbers
To / E-mail address:	Nic Green NumberingReview@ofcom.org.uk
Name of respondent:	Alan Saunders
Representing (self or organisation/s):	Local Action Group
Address (if not received by email):	

CONFIDENTIALITY

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?

Nothing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name/address/contact details/job title	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whole Response	<input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Part of the Response	<input type="checkbox"/>	If there is no separate annex, which parts?	

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Name

Alan Saunders

Signed (if hard copy)

I believe that current proposals to reduce the cost of 0870 numbers are only partially useful because they fail to take account of the consistent development pattern of UK telecoms.

Most landline networks (e.g. B.T., TalkTalk etc.) currently offer consumers packages which include all regional landline calls (beginning with 01). Similarly mobile providers who have inclusive minute contracts (all of the main networks) charge extra for non 01 calls – even 0800 numbers.

In view of this, the cost of non geographic numbers is increasing relative to mainstream numbers. This means that consumers are being penalised by the spread of non-geographic numbers.

It becomes, therefore, increasingly important in the future to:

- i. Encourage telecoms providers to treat some non-geographic numbers as equivalent to 01 numbers in charging schemes. Or
- ii. To discourage the growth of non-geographic numbers or require that an equivalent 01 prefix be supplied in all practicable cases.

Alan Saunders