

Response From Name Withheld 7

I would like to make a few comments and suggestions regarding Ofcom's numbering proposals.

Firstly,

Non-Geographical numbers:

03: Introduce these numbers for organisations and businesses who do not want any revenue from their incoming calls but do want a national number.

080: No changes need to be made, however, the cost of calling these numbers on a mobile phone is double the amount of calling a landline and is the same as an international call!. I think Ofcom should introduce a new policy 'Mobile access charge' similar to the 'Payphone access charge' where the service provider receives revenue from the owners of a freephone number, this will ensure free access to the caller. Furthermore, the payphone access charge should be risen to 10.1p per minute from the existing 8.1p per minute. This is because many people seem to use public payphones to call freephone numbers yet the payphone service providers do not seem to be making enough income to fund for maintenance of the payphones or telephone kiosks.

0844: No changes should be made.

0845: No changes should be made unless a user of an 0845 number wants to migrate to a proposed 03 number.

0870: No changes should be made. However, Ofcom should introduce a new condition to this to make it a breach of the conditions to call it National Rate. All service providers including BT withdrew their separate local and national geographical rate several years ago. Furthermore, in 2003 when BT did have a national rate, it was so much lower than what 0870 calls were. If Ofcom was to stop the revenue being allowed to be claimed, then businesses and organisations will look at 0871 numbers or fixed rate premium rate numbers which will charge consumers a lot more!

0871: Migrate to an 09 number

Personal, Paging and Mobiles:

070: These numbers have been trouble ever since they started and I feel that it is a good idea to move these numbers to another range as people are getting confused with mobile and pager numbers. Furthermore, they should no longer be called personal numbers as many businesses now use them.

076: Manx Telecom's pronto mobile phone service uses 07624 for its mobile service and this is actually a paging allocation. Shouldn't this be an 077,078 or 079 number? No other changes should be made to paging numbers.

077,078,079: Ofcom needs to seriously take a look at mobile termination rates. 10 minute daytime calls are costing landline users just under £2 per 10 minute call. This is over the top and Ofcom needs to use price capping.

Geographical numbers:

01,02: All cities should use 02 codes which will free up capacity for growing towns and all new 02 numbers should follow the London system including the local dialling system. Furthermore, there are around 110,000 payphones across the UK, wouldn't it free up capacity if all these payphones were to use a code of its own? It will free up geographical numbers if payphones were allocated numbers of their own. Maybe 07 numbers for example. Then the 07 range could be known for outdoor and find me anywhere usage. (Wirefree and public payphone communications). The payphone service providers should also be allowed to charge termination rates if they were to be allocated 07 numbers as this will ensure that most public payphones will accept incoming calls. Spectrum

Interactive, Infolines Public Networks and Euro-payphone do not allow incoming calls on their street payphones and between them, they operate around 20,000 payphones.

I am a consumer and would like my name and contact details to be kept confidential.