

Ed Vaizey MP

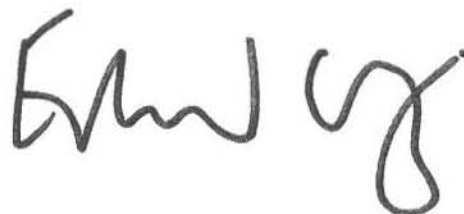
Minister for Culture, Communications and
Creative Industries

26 October 2010

STATEMENT ON THE WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ACT 2006 (DIRECTIONS TO OFCOM)
ORDER 2010

Ofcom has finalised a report for Government concerning the impact on competition as a result of liberalisation in the context of the proposed direction to Ofcom. It contains an assessment of the impacts on consumers and competition of allowing the holders of licences in the 900MHz and 1800MHz bands to use that spectrum to provide UMTS services now, as the market currently stands.

In making the assessment available now, the SoS wishes to affirm his intention that this competition assessment was not, and should not be construed as, intended to constrain in any way the process for designing the rules for the auction of spectrum at 800MHz, 2600MHz or in any other band or as definitive of any assessment which Ofcom may be required to make in exercising its duties in the future. The process of designing the auction rules will require a further competition assessment, on which all parties will have chance to comment. For the avoidance of doubt, the SoS intends that Ofcom should take into account all legitimate comments made by MNOs or others in relation to the second competition assessment, including comments that question or dispute any judgments or conclusions common to the two competition assessments.



ED VAIZEY

Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries