Commission for
Communications Regulation

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ComReg announces phone number changes for 023, 043, 052 and 064 areas scheduled for 2009

The Commission for Communications Regulation has today outlined a plan for phased changes in telephone numbers that will take final effect in May/June 2009.

These changes will affect the following areas:

Area Code	County	Affected Areas
023	Cork	Bandon
043	Longford	Longford and Granard
052	Tipperary	Clonmel, Cahir and Killenaule
064	Kerry	Killarney and Rathmore

All local numbers in the affected areas will have 2 digits added to the start of the existing 5 digit number. The Area Code will not change.

ComReg is responsible for the management and administration of the National Numbering Scheme. When the level of "free" numbers reaches a certain level, changes to the numbering scheme are necessary to ensure that sufficient new numbers are made available to support services for all end-users.

From November 3rd 2008, it will be possible for customers to use both the old and new numbers. The old and new numbers will operate in parallel for a period of approximately 6 months until the actual number change dates in May and June of 2009. After the number change date, only the new 7 digit numbers can be used to complete a call. Customers who dial the old 5 digit number will hear a recorded announcement informing them that the number has changed and asking the customer to dial again using the new number.

Consumers should ensure that they update relevant contact information and inform friends and associates of the change to avoid any inconvenience. ComReg is working closely with telecommunication service providers to ensure that their customers are informed of these changes in a timely manner.

Further details of these number changes are available from ComReg's consumer website, www.askcomreg.ie/numberchanges .

ENDS

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