



Media Release- 27th June 2005

ComReg Consults on its Regulatory Strategy for 2005 to 2007

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today issued its draft Strategy Statement for the electronic communications market for 2005-2007 as required under the Communications Act 2002. The document – ComReg 05/47 – is available on the ComReg website www.comreg.ie

The document evaluates how the market has evolved since 2003, sets out ComReg's views on possible developments and their impacts on the market between 2005 and 2007, and outlines our proposed regulatory strategy.

Over the past 2 years communications markets both in Ireland and globally have experienced a period of considerable change. Consumers are being offered a wide range of innovative services such as broadband, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), digital broadcasting and third generation mobile networks (3G).

The new EU regulatory framework has been fully implemented and ComReg has almost completed its analysis of the 18 markets under the EU Commission's Recommendation on Relevant Markets. This has enabled ComReg to reduce regulation where warranted and identify the appropriate remedies to take where market failure has continued. This process is an evolving one and ComReg mindful of its requirements to regulate both only when necessary and to the appropriate degree. Continued development of the market place will be a key component in driving the pace of change and any corresponding further relaxation of the regulatory environment.

ComReg wishes to invite views on this draft Strategy Statement thus ensuring that its work programme for 2005-2007 reflects the concerns of its key stakeholders including consumers, industry and government

This draft consultation will be followed by a public workshop, which will invite stakeholders to discuss and debate ComReg's proposed strategy and to discuss our earlier Forward-Looking Strategic Review.

ComReg is publishing a separate consultation on a Postal Strategy Statement. It is ComReg's intention to publish a combined final strategy statement in September 2005.

ENDS

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