



Commission for
Communications Regulation

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ComReg proposes cuts in LLU line share price

The Commission for Communications Regulation today published its response to consultation on the proposal to reduce the price of Local Loop Unbundling (LLU) Line Share from €9.00 to €0.39c. This is the price eircom charges other operators who wish to provide broadband services to customers over existing phone lines.

The use of line share has been a catalyst for growth in the provision of Broadband services in a range of other European countries. Line share has, for instance, played an important role in driving Broadband roll-out in France. ComReg's proposed changes are intended to further stimulate competition in the Irish market.

Having considered the responses to its first consultation on this matter, ComReg has now published the text of a draft direction to eircom on which comments are invited. Interested parties are also given a further opportunity to comment on the reasoning behind ComReg's proposal.

ComReg is reviewing this price because currently consumers who take broadband and voice over the phone line are being charged twice for elements of the line rental.

Note to editors

The Line Sharing Product is used to allow other operators to rent the broadband capacity on a local loop from eircom without taking control of the entire line. It makes it possible for an operator to unbundle the local loop with the objective of providing broadband services only while leaving the provision of voice services to eircom. It is therefore possible for two operators to provide two services (broadband and voice) over the same line simultaneously. This contrasts with full unbundling, where the operator takes control of the entire line, including the voice element.

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