



Media Release - 6 October 2009

ComReg publishes response to consultation on the release of spectrum for next generation wireless broadband

The Commission for Communication Regulation (ComReg) has today published its Response to Consultation on the release of spectrum in the 2300 - 2400 MHz (2.3 GHz) band. This is a prime spectrum band, currently unassigned in Ireland, which has the capability of delivering new and innovative technologies and services particularly wireless broadband.

The Response to Consultation sets out ComReg's views on the future licensing of this band including matters such as licence types, national and local, licence duration and competition approaches.

There was considerable interest expressed in this spectrum band with twenty responses to the consultation. Wireless broadband contributes to a significant amount of the total broadband market in Ireland, accounting for over 37% of all broadband subscriptions. Wireless broadband encapsulates both mobile broadband and fixed wireless broadband. Next generation wireless broadband promises to deliver higher capacity and more diverse services to users.

There are some outstanding matters which require further consideration such as the licence award mechanism, reserve prices, licence fees, spectrum cap and licence conditions. ComReg will bring forward its final consultation on this valuable radio spectrum band early in 2010.

The Response to Consultation (ComReg document 09/76) is available on the ComReg website www.comreg.ie

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