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## **ComReg to award National Licences for the Provision of Wide Band Digital Mobile Data Services**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) is committed to ensuring the widest possible availability of Broadband data services to the public.

ComReg has to date successfully launched several initiatives to promote this goal such as permitting licence-exempt public wireless access services in the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands as well as licensing the 3.5 GHz, 10.5 GHz and 26 GHz bands for fixed wireless access (FWA) services. The provision of these services is already having an impact in terms of providing an additional way to access Broadband. While availability of these services is progressing ComReg is keen to promote further competition in this sector.

Today ComReg has published an Information Notice - ComReg 0580 and the Information Memorandum – ComReg 0579 which seeks applications for licences for the provision of wideband digital mobile data services in the 420 MHz and 900 MHz bands. The proposed new wideband digital mobile data services will facilitate relatively high-speed wireless internet access and other data communications. The main points are as follows:

- The Information Notice 05/80 contains a summary of the licensing procedure. The full details are in the Information Memorandum 05/79 which can be purchased for €5,000.
- There will be 3 licences on offer, 2 in the 420 MHz band and 1 in the 900 MHz band.
- If there is more than one application for any of the three licences on offer then that licence will be auctioned.
- A reserve price of €100,000 has been placed on each of the licences.
- Applicants can only be awarded one licence.

- The licence duration is for 10 years with a review at year 3 to ensure compliance with rollout and minimum loading criteria commitments made as part of the licensing process, in order to prevent spectrum hoarding.

**ENDS**

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