



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

MEDIA RELEASE

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New Working Group for 3G Site-Sharing

The ODTR has established a working group comprising representatives from the three operators, Hutchison Whampoa, O₂ and Vodafone to whom 3G licences have been issued, and the ODTR to develop a Code of Practice for sharing of radio sites between the operators.

As part of their applications for the 3G licences all three operators made commitments to support the ODTR in developing such a Code of Practice.

The purpose of the Code will be to ensure that full consideration is given to the use of existing masts, buildings and other structures for the siting of new antennas and to strongly encourage the sharing of masts and sites where it represents the optimum environmental solution. The first meeting of the working group will be on 22nd October and it is expected that the group will eventually be widened to include Meteor and other interested parties.

Etain Doyle said ‘I am very pleased that this group is now established and am aware that all the operators have work underway on implementing their licence commitments. I look forward to the rollout of 3G services in Ireland and the myriad opportunities it will bring’.

All three licensees have licence commitments to launch during 2003 and the ODTR intends to confirm fulfilment of each operator’s milestones at the relevant times. Details of all the licences will be published at the beginning of 2004.

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