



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Regulator to Consult on Itemised Billing for Consumers

Telecoms Regulator Etain Doyle today (1st May 2001) announced that she is to consult on the subject of itemised billing for consumers.

Many consumers use itemised billing to check their calling patterns and accuracy of their bills. The facility is generally made available to consumers up to a certain level and some operator's charge for the service while others do not.

According to the regulator “ There are benefits to users of fixed line telephony services from free access to at least a minimum level of itemised billing. Under Irish and EU legislation there are provisions that allow me to define a minimum level of itemised billing that should be provided to users free. The purpose of this consultation is to assist me in forming an appropriate definition of this minimum level.”

The Regulator suggests that the basic information required on call charges should include destination telephone number, date, time, and duration and charge for each individual call made during a relevant billing period.

While calls that do not attract a charge, such as free phone numbers, should not be identified in itemised bills, the Director is also seeking opinions on whether or not it is appropriate to list individual time and duration of such calls in a bill.

The consultation period will run from 01st May 2001 up to the 01st June 2001. The consultation paper – ODTR 01/30 “Itemised billing by telecommunications operators” - can be viewed on the ODTR website www.odtr.ie

ENDS

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