

Digital Communications Infrastructure Strategy Consultation

Thank you for choosing to respond to this consultation. This online survey should be completed with referral to the information accompanying the questions in the Digital Communications Infrastructure Strategy consultation document published on the gov.uk website.

This consultation will close at midnight on Wednesday 1 October 2014.

Disclosure of responses

Please read this section carefully before you start responding to this consultation.

The Government intends to publish responses received from organisation to this consultation on www.gov.uk following closure of the consultation period.

However, all information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory code of practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, among other things, with obligations of confidence.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the department.

The department will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

. Are you content for the Government to publish your response?

- ☒ Yes, I would like the Government to publish my response.
- ☐ No, I do not want the Government to publish my response.

. Please explain why you regard the information you have provided in response to this consultation as confidential.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Organisational / individual details

Before proceeding to the consultation questions, please provide contact details and some information about you or your organisation. This is optional but will help with our analysis of your response.

DCMS will process your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

. Name

Rafael Paniccia

. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

☐ Yes

☒ No

. Organisation name

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

. Contact email address

rafapa68@hotmail.com

. Contact address

Haywards Heath, West Sussex

. Please select which category best describes you or your organisation

Consumer/user

. If other, please give details.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

. **Introduction: The role of Government**

Q1a.

Is this an appropriate role for Government?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Q1bi.

Are there other high level principles the Government might adopt?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Q1bii.

If yes, please give details.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q1c.

What resources do you consider the Government should aim to deploy to effectively manage its role?

Ofcom should be able to continue to police communication providers and companies. Set expectations and service levels. And to set/discuss/define new technologies to be implemented over the country.

. Section 1: Existing and planned communications infrastructure and the current infrastructure supply market

Q2. What potential opportunities are there for Government to leverage its combined buying power to support policy objectives?

I believe there is a limited opportunity to do that, as there are many government agencies and bodies that do not share the same levels of access, restrictions, purposes, etc. It may also affect competition, as buying all government's communications needs, even in a specific sector, could restrict other companies to deliver. However, a common standard or policies should be in place, in order to provide integration and simple rules of engagement.

Q3a. If migration to IPV6 is required, are there any barriers to that migration?

☐ I think there are significant barriers.

☒ I think there are insignificant barriers.

☐ I do not think there are any barriers.

☐ I do not think IPV6 is required.

Q3b. How might these barriers be addressed?

There are defined ways to implement IPv6.
The objective is to define a plan to rapidly convert government networks to IPv6 protocol, mainly on its interconnection to Internet.
The migration of internal IP Addressing (within a specific governing body) is not really an issue and could remain as it is for longer.
The main barrier I see in here are obsolete or older devices, including servers and software, that do not support migration to IPv6.

. Section 2: What might future demand look like?

Q4a. Is an ongoing disparity of provision of broadband services across the country inevitable?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Q4b. If so, should this be addressed?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Q4c. How might this be done most effectively?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q5. How symmetrical will digital communications networks have to be in the future? Will this differ across user types? What implications does this have for fixed and wireless broadband provision?

I believe that most of the users will still require an asymmetrical service, where most of their interactions is to download data from the cloud. There will be some users and moments in time where the users will require to upload data to the cloud, and they will require a near-symmetrical service.
There are also business users that will require a symmetrical digital communication network, as their data will be more interactive and could be created anywhere.

Q6. Which countries should be our benchmarks on communications infrastructure to ensure that business remains in the UK and continues to invest?

To be one of the top ten countries you should compare your needs/expectations/provisions with the top ten countries. Namely, USA, Canada, Japan, Germany, France, South Korea, Switzerland, Sweden and Norway.

Q7a. What metrics do you think should or will become relevant in comparing network performance in different countries?

Download times for a 4, 8, 24 or 64 MB photo. round trip time to a globally located over the top provider (Google, Facebook).
Download time for a 3 minutes song under the same CODEC (MP3/MP4).
As superfast broadband becomes the norm, then bigger files are needed to demonstrate speed or network performance.

Q7b. What metrics should most appropriately be used as the basis to set objectives for Government policy?

the ones mentioned on Question 7.b. Also availability, mean time between failures, as the networks become more important

. Section 3: Scenario 1

Q8a. Do you agree with this scenario or elements within it?

- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Strongly Agree

Q8b. Where do you agree/disagree? If you disagree what alternative scenario do you envisage?

in 3.8, adoption of TV has slowed by the cost of them, but the adoption of Smartphones and Tablets will continue its current level. More services or apps to be added to allow us better connection (face time, uploading/sharing of videos). new ways to use the technology.

Q9. What are your views on the technology commentary underpinning this scenario? To what extent might the infrastructure/technology discussed evolve irrespective of demand and how far it be a direct consequence of the level of demand?

As more traffic is required, and more services with specific requirements (QoS), then the infrastructure has to grow/shape accordingly. It may also consider time-of-day shifts, with traffic varying according to the movement of the population from home to work and back home.
In certain areas, as super-cities, the traffic will remain in high demand almost all day, being driven by tourism or roaming devices.

Q10a. Are there technologies not identified here that you think will have a major impact on the performance of existing infrastructure or the deployment of additional infrastructure in the next 10-15 years?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Q10b. If yes, please give details.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q11a. Are there wider environmental issues not reflected in the scenario e.g. the price of availability of energy that will affect any of the scenarios?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Q11b. In what way might these wider environmental issues affect any of the scenarios?

As gas, electricity, water and sewers are everywhere, the new world also requires the existence of data and telecommunication networks everywhere. Solar and Wind energy will be provided wherever it's needed. Better, more efficient/greener devices will continue to be provided.
The wider environmental issue is to become greener, to respect farms, the geography or terrain, to provide a "good" level basic service to everyone, but respecting the environment.

Q12a. How likely is any unforeseen disruption to this scenario?

- ☐ Very Unlikely
- ☒ Unlikely
- ☐ Undecided
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ Very Likely

Q12b. In what area might it occur?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

. Section 3: Scenario 2

Q13a. Do you agree with this scenario or elements within it?

- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☒ Strongly Agree

Q13b. Where do you agree/disagree? If you disagree what alternative scenario do you envisage?

Agree on all points

Q14. What are your views on the technology commentary underpinning this scenario? To what extent might the infrastructure/technology discussed evolve irrespective of demand and how far it be a direct consequence of the level of demand?

I believe that competition between service and communication providers will make technology commentary 3.33 not very accurate. However, technology commentary 3.30 will continue to be the true force behind network evolution: "Operators will use the most cost effective access technology". Some technology will be redeployed to extend its lifespan: like deploying 3G on rural environment, or backhauling 2G on 3G wireless links to reach less-dense populated cities, but providing better performance.

Q15a. Are there technologies not identified here that you think will have a major impact on the performance of existing infrastructure or the deployment of additional infrastructure in the next 10-15 years?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Q15b. If yes, please give details.

As said in Q14, there will be greater re-deployment of existing technologies, in order to maximise the investments done by the service providers.

Q16a. Are there wider environmental issues not reflected in the scenario e.g. the price of availability of energy that will affect any of the scenarios?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Q16b. In what way might these wider environmental issues affect any of the scenarios?

same as with scenario 1.

Q17a. How likely is any unforeseen disruption to this scenario?

- ☒ Very Unlikely
- ☐ Unlikely
- ☐ Undecided
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ Very Likely

Q17b. In what area might it occur?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

. Section 3: Scenario 3

Q18a. Do you agree with this scenario or elements within it?

- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Strongly Agree

Q18b. Where do you agree/disagree? If you disagree what alternative scenario do you envisage?

I don't agree with statement 3.38, I don't see television in DTT as a driving factor, but a factor that will decline in importance...

Q19. What are your views on the technology commentary underpinning this scenario? To what extent might the infrastructure/technology discussed evolve irrespective of demand and how far it be a direct consequence of the level of demand?

In 3.44, the existence and continued adoption of smartphones and tablets will require a mix of 3G/4G/Wifi, where the voice traffic will remain in 2G/3G, and data/audio-video in WiFi and faster data rates.

Q20a. Are there technologies not identified here that you think will have a major impact on the performance of existing infrastructure or the deployment of additional infrastructure in the next 10-15 years?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Q20b. If yes, please give details.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q21a. Are there wider environmental issues not reflected in the scenario e.g. the price of availability of energy that will affect any of the scenarios?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Q21b. In what way might these wider environmental issues affect any of the scenarios?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q22a. How likely is any unforeseen disruption to this scenario?

- ☒ Very Unlikely
- ☐ Unlikely
- ☐ Undecided
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ Very Likely

Q22b. In what area might it occur?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

. Section 3: General questions on the three scenarios

Q23a. Are there factors, for example technical or unrelated to the regulatory framework, that could create bottlenecks and delay future infrastructure deployment in the UK in this timeframe, that would result in demand not being met or the UK not being seen as a leading digital nation?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Q23b. Please give details.

The economic factor will reduce the deployment of new technologies: service providers trying to get the most of every penny invested.
Regulators need to create better economic variables for the adoption of new technologies, with tax-rebates, investment programmes, or even rural providers.

Q24a. Do you expect commercial providers to deliver future infrastructure and meet demand on a purely commercial basis, or is some form of public intervention likely?

- ☐ Commercial providers will meet demand on a purely commercial basis.
- ☒ Some form of public intervention is likely.

Q24b. If public intervention is likely how might that work with the commercial provision of infrastructure? What form might that intervention take?

Rural providers or companies serving isolate areas, but using other service providers to connect to the internet.
Community founded service providers, supporting health/educational/social integration.

Q25. Which current or draft legislation might prevent or facilitate the emergence of any of the scenarios?

not sure

Q26a. Do you have views on which scenario (or combination of scenarios) is most likely and should influence the development of future strategy?

- ☐ Scenario 1
- ☒ Scenario 2
- ☐ Scenario 3
- ☐ None

Q26b. Please give your reasoning for why you think this scenario or combination of scenarios is most likely.

Changes in technology led by demand. As seen with certain companies and technologies (Sony Betamax versus VHS, Toshiba HD DVD versus Bluray), the demand led what technology/services are deployed, not the narrow view of a company or the technologies they invest into.

. Section 4: Competition and regulation

Q27. How might efficient investment in communications infrastructure be supported, for example by changes in the regulatory framework?

Not sure, I believe that this has to be analysed per case, and based on the constraints defined to implement new technologies.

Q28a. Are any further measures necessary to incentivise the rollout of future mobile infrastructure in currently underserved areas?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Q28b. Please give details.

Support early implementation of technologies with tax-incentives, shared ownership, community funding.

Q29a. Is there a role for a revised USO or USC to ensure that minimum consumer demand requirements are met and to reduce the potential for a new digital divide? What might this look like?

- ☒ I think there is a role for a revised USO
- ☐ I think there is a role for a revised USC
- ☐ I think there is a role for both a revised USC and a revised USO
- ☐ I do not think a revised USO or USC are needed

Q29b. What might this look like?

Increasing the committed speed of 2 Mbps to a better speed with new technologies supporting old copper cable.

Q30. In terms of supporting future innovation and long-term investment in infrastructure, what areas of broadcasting regulation may have served its purpose by 2025 -2030 (or indeed earlier). What future technical developments may also have longer term implications for regulation and wider public policy?

Not sure.

Q31a. Are there changes to the EU Framework that the UK might seek to encourage more competition in UK markets?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Q31b. Please give details.

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q32. Should Government seek changes to the European Framework which put more reliance on competition law?

- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☒ Disagree
- ☐ Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly Agree

Q32b. How might this be done?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q33. In what ways can you see competition driving technological change in the UK in the future?

Changes on Technology are driving by 2 factors: cost of implementation versus profit obtained, and consumer demand. Having a healthy competition, where there are different services offered, the competition may encourage both companies (competitors) to implement similarservices/technologies to gain more consumers/users.

Q34. How can the regulatory framework keep up to date with new business models and changes in technology?

The Regulatory Framework needs to be reviewed frequently, as there are new requirements and new technologies that may require new framework and rules.

Q35. Are there any changes to legislation other than the Communications Act that would incentivise the provision of communications infrastructure?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Q35b. What might these changes be?

This question was not displayed to the respondent.

Q36a. Would there be benefits to investment from a focus on broadband only services? Are there any barriers to the emergence and adoption of broadband only services, whilst still providing necessary access to emergency services?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Q36b. Please give details.

It allows the end user to implement different and specific services depending on end user's needs.

Q36c. Are there any barriers to the emergence and adoption of broadband only services, whilst still providing necessary access to emergency services?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Q36d. Please give details.

the provision of geographic dial-codes.

. Section 5: Facilitating and encouraging investment

Q37. How might copper access networks evolve over time alongside other access technologies? Is there a role for policymakers in helping manage any transition from copper to other access networks?

It depends from case to case. As more speed and more services are required, a switch off the copper access is a possible solution. But new technologies may provide better speeds over the same copper, extending its service.

Q38a.

Views are sought on whether there are any additional actions the Government should consider to ensure that the provision of all areas of the UK's digital communications infrastructure remains competitive in order to ensure that the UK can take full advantage of growth opportunities in the Digital Age.

This is a must if UK wants to maintain a high level standard of life and technology adoption.

Q38b.

Aside from legislation and adapting the regulatory framework in the broad sense which other actions should the Government take to encourage investment in communications infrastructure?

The government should facilitate the implementation of new technologies and that communication technologies are accessible to all, within certain constraints.

Q38c. Views are sought on whether there are any additional actions the Government should consider to ensure that potential investment in the provision of digital communications infrastructure offers a suitable risk and reward profile to ensure that they can be financed by the private sector.

Adoption of new technologies bare a cost, the cost/profit curve needs to be sweet enough to attrac the private sector to deliver. The Government is not capable of taking the cost and risk to develop new infrastructure and/or technologies alone.

Q39a.

Views are sought on the case for the UK to invest to gain 'early mover advantage'.

Yes, but carefully.

Q39b. Views are sought on what areas in particular the UK should aim to see investment in.

Wifi, as a common place.

Q39c.

Are there any actions not covered elsewhere in this report that the government should consider to ensure digital communications infrastructure is in place before it is needed and such that it helps generate need?

no

Q40. How might we maximise the current R&D and innovation UK landscape to help take advantage of the opportunities provided by future technologies? What needs to be done by Government and its agencies, and industry to tackle any gaps?

to review current needs.

I think that the speed and availability for access on rural areas is lagging behind; this is an opportunity for business and technology.

Q41. In which future communications technologies that you consider the UK has, or could achieve, an international leadership position?

I think that the speed and availability for access on rural areas is lagging behind; this is an opportunity for business and technology.

Q42. What more might government and industry do to exploit future technologies, associated new applications and emerging business models?

This is a shift in paradigms to employ new business models to stay current and keep happy customers

Q43. What role might local bodies have in facilitating the future delivery of digital communications infrastructure?

Introducing services based on new technologies, this will trigger the need to implement or adopt those new technologies

Q44. How can councils maximise the digital communications infrastructure in their local area to support their work on economic regeneration?

Introducing services based on new technologies, this will trigger the need to implement or adopt those new technologies

. Further relevant information not covered by the consultation questions.

. Please provide details of information you feel is relevant to the development of the Digital Communications Infrastructure Strategy and not already covered by the consultation questions.

None

Location Data

Location: [\(51.5, -0.1300048828125\)](#)

Source: GeoIP Estimation

