

Title:

Forename:

Surname:

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep name confidential

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

You may publish my response on receipt

Additional comments:

I strongly support this proposal.

It is a simple and elegant solution to a seemingly complex problem. Companies such as O2 have been permitted to run 3G services in spectrum previously reserved for 2G; this proposal is fundamentally no different.

The network operators outrageous bickering and delays are frankly harming our economy at a time we can't afford it. 4G is vital to reduce the huge problems with data capacity on our networks in cities and utterly essential for rural areas who are depending on 4G as their only realistic chance of getting a decent (or in many cases any) Internet connection.

Of course EE's competitors will cry foul but would rejecting this proposal really cause harm? All

it will do is help customers get access to services that are desperately-needed. I personally use O2 and so won't personally benefit, but this is no reason for others not to.

I note the public comment from Vodafone about this being somehow not good for consumers because it gives EE a bit of a head start on 4G. What utter nonsense. If us punters don't like the offering from EE, we won't use it. This move should encourage all the other operators to quit bickering and just get on with it, and deliver the 4G market competition (that will inevitably follow) to benefit customers further. 'Further' being the operative word here. Yes, it would be better to have competition from the outset but if this isn't possible, an early start by EE will provide at least some 4G options until that is possible.

Those who argue against this should ask themselves some searching questions about why it is even necessary. The network operators should be ashamed to have caused a situation which has destroyed our long-standing reputation as digital pioneers. That said, DSO has taken far too long, been too cautious and also added to delays with 4G, which Ofcom, the Government and others should reflect on. To think that just a few years ago, we were streets ahead of the USA with 3G, now we are lagging behind them by years. Unnecessarily giving a lead to our competitors is economic madness.

My only concern is about the idea of EE using WiMAX. We all know WiMAX is a non-starter and is outclassed by LTE, which is the clear winner in the 4G 'format war'. WiMAX is an unnecessary diversion and should not be supported for a national 4G network.

So yes, like most users, I support this move. I would like to see many more ideas like this come to fruition though to end the scandal of the UK being so ridiculously far behind in 4G deployment. Ofcom needs to get ahead of the curve and start to give serious support to rapid deployment of LTE-Advanced services in the UK so that we can make up for our late entry to the 4G market.

I am quite sure there will soon be a large number of people who own 4G devices (particularly the new iPad) who will be perplexed as to why they can't make full use of them. I implore Ofcom to ignore the self-interested naysayers on this one and approve this pronto!