

Dear Gideon

The consultation document is too long to print out and read. Suffice to say that I believe number portability should be improved, and that numbers should be able to be taken when someone moves. However, my major concern is that this would confuse the current position where the code is understood as, and can identify, the source of a call. Moving numbers around would, in a few years, mean that codes no longer had any relevance. For example, I propose to move the Annan, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, next year, from Reading, Berkshire, England. My current code is 0118 for Reading, and I have kept the same number through 10 moves within the Reading area. However, moving 0118 to Annan would confuse those people I had not advised of my move, when they check their bill and find they have paid a national call rate instead of local.