

Westminster eForum Keynote Seminar: Net neutrality in the UK

Date: 28th September 2010

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London, SW1A 2ET

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Lord Clement-Jones, Member, House of Lords Communications Committee and Former Liberal Democrat Spokesperson, Culture, Media and Sport
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Traffic management and 'net neutrality'**
Alex Blowers, International Director, Ofcom
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.45 **The effects and consequences of ending net neutrality**
Themes: Is net congestion a short-term issue created by current online usage trends? How are different networks and players being affected? Would ending net neutrality lead to 'unfair' traffic discrimination? What are the economic benefits of traffic management? What will be the effect on quality of service of traffic management? What effect, if any, would traffic management have on innovation? Would ending net neutrality encourage investment in NGA (next generation access)?
Professor Martin Cave, Regulatory Economist, London School of Economics and Political Science
Olivier Duroyon, Director in Public Affairs, Alcatel-Lucent
Andrew Heaney, Executive Director, Strategy and Regulation, TalkTalk
Nigel Hickson, Head of EU and International ICT Policy, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Jean-Jacques Sahel, Director, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Europe, Middle-East and Africa, Skype
Mike Grant, Partner, Media, Analysys Mason
Question and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Lord Clement-Jones, Member, House of Lords Communications Committee and Former Liberal Democrat Spokesperson, Culture, Media and Sport
- 10.50 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.25 - 12.45 **Consumers and traffic management**
Themes: To what extent is ending net neutrality in the consumer's best interests? What can be done to ensure traffic management is transparent to consumers? How can information on traffic management be presented so that it is accessible and meaningful to consumers, both in understanding any restrictions on their existing services, and in choosing between rival offerings? Should a minimum level of service be introduced to ensure broadband access is not determined by economic circumstance?
Alissa Cooper, Chief Computer Scientist, Center for Democracy and Technology
Anna Fielder, Consumer Policy Advisor; Board Member, Privacy International
Simon Milner, Director, Group Industry Policy, BT
Nick White, Executive Vice President, INTUG (International Telecommunications Users Group)
Brian Williamson, Director, Plum Consulting
Senior representative, high bandwidth website
Question and comments from the floor
- 12.45 - 12.55 **Final thoughts from Ofcom**
Alex Blowers, International Director, Ofcom
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster eForum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Thomas Raynsford, Senior Producer, Westminster eForum

Seminar supported by

