Westminster *e*Forum Keynote Seminar
Superfast broadband - deployment challenges and commercial opportunities
Timing: Morning, Thursday, 5th December 2013
Venue: Johnnie Walker Room, The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR

Agenda subject to change

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Roger Darlington, Chair, Consumer Expert Group, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

9.05 - 9.15 **Next step challenges for UK connectivity**
After a series of government investment and policy initiatives for broadband, what has been learnt that will help service providers, regulators and government work together to enable increased internet connectivity? Following the Spending Review's revised coverage targets, how will 99% superfast wireless or fixed-line coverage by 2018 impact the market for communication and online services in the UK?
Matt Yardley, Partner, Analysys Mason

9.15 - 9.35 **Investment in delivery of broadband in the UK**
With public and privately funded broadband projects underway across the UK, what are the remaining challenges for deployment? How are these projects changing the way businesses as well as communities use the internet? What challenges do the responsibilities attached to government funding create for commercially viable deployment?
Julian Ashworth, Director of Group Industry Policy, BT Group

9.35 - 10.25 **Next steps for the UK and European broadband markets**
What impact will forthcoming EU Regulation to support the development of single market for telecoms have on the UK? With Sky's acquisition of O2 fixed line broadband, as well as major acquisitions by Vodafone and Liberty Global across Europe, what effect - if any - is consolidation having on competition in the UK and Europe? What are the consequences of a unified European market for telecoms for UK consumers? Are there incentives in place and solutions available to ensure broadband delivery to the final 10% of the UK? With the UK market's reputation for offering consumers value for money and for being highly regulated, what are the prospects for UK telecommunications companies in a European telecoms market?
Matthew Braovac, Head of Regulatory Affairs, Vodafone
Daniel Butler, Head of Public Affairs and Policy, Virgin Media
Andrew Heaney, Executive Director of Strategy and Regulation, TalkTalk Group
Malcolm Corbett, Chief Executive Officer, Independent Networks Cooperative Association (INCA)
Daniel Pataki, Director, European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO)
Questions and comments from the floor with **Julian Ashworth**, Director of Group Industry Policy, BT Group

10.25 - 10.50 **Seeking a transformation of broadband in the UK by 2015**
Following the Government's commitment to provide money to help stimulate private sector investment in broadband - and to ensure that the benefits of improved broadband infrastructure reach beyond the limits of where it is commercially viable to install it - what are the next steps?
Simon Towler, Deputy Director, Head of Telecommunications Policy, Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Question and comments from the floor

10.50 - 10.55 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Roger Darlington, Chair, Consumer Expert Group, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

10.55 - 11.20 Coffee

11.20 - 11.25 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Richard Broughton, Director of Broadband, IHS

11.25 - 12.05 **Accessibility, inclusion and skills**
What progress are government initiatives and service providers making in addressing the 'not spots' in both mobile and fixed line coverage in the UK? How will local broadband strategies use broadband connectivity to benefit their communities and increase take up of online services amongst the 16% of the UK not online? With policy often focused on issues relating to investment and provision of broadband, what are the options to develop the access and skills initiatives to ensure that internet connectivity provides real benefits to consumers, businesses and public sector services across the UK?
Tristan Wilkinson, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Go ON UK
Dave Carter, Head of Manchester Digital Development Agency, Manchester City Council
Robin Christopherson, Head of Digital Inclusion, AbilityNet
Questions and comments from the floor

12.05 - 12.55 **Broadband service and competition challenges**
With the rise of bundling communication services, including 'free' offers for services such as broadband or sports content, do ISPs increasingly need to offer multiservice propositions to be competitive? How will online content rules affect broadband provision, for example will imposing court ordered blocking and 'default on' content filters 'clean the pipes' for legal and appropriate content? To what extent do these conditions mean that internet service providers are being forced to regulate content by proxy? With long-term concerns about how ISPs will respond to spiking or large scale increases in bandwidth demand - is there evidence of wide-scale strain on broadband networks and that this is a threat to net neutrality? To what extent will sophisticated network management enable broadband services to differentiate their products on speed, downtime and access to content?
Craig Tillotson, Panel Member, Communications Consumer Panel
Alistair Law, Policy Manager, BSkyB
Paul Larbey, President, Velocix
Richard Jones, Partner, Ventura Team
Professor Chris Marsden, Professor of Media Law, University of Sussex
Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster *e*Forum closing remarks**
Richard Broughton, Director of Broadband, IHS
Edward Rees, Forum Lead, Westminster *e*Forum