

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Amendments to Communications Act 2003 and related amendments

Communications Act 2003

27. In section 51 (general conditions)—

(a) in subsection (1)(e) omit “or regulating”,

(b) in subsection (2)—

(i) at the end of paragraph (a) omit “and”, and

(ii) after paragraph (b) insert—

“(c) specify requirements in relation to the provision of services to disabled end-users;

(d) require the provision, free of charge, of specified information, or information of a specified kind, to end-users;

(e) in order to prevent the degradation of service and the hindering or slowing down of traffic over networks, impose minimum requirements in relation to the quality of public electronic communications networks;

(f) require a communications provider, in specified circumstances, to block access to telephone numbers or services in order to prevent fraud or misuse, and enable them to withhold fees payable to another communications provider in those circumstances;

(g) impose a limit on the duration of a contract between an end-user and a communications provider; and

(h) ensure that conditions and procedures for the termination of a contract do not act as a disincentive to an end-user changing communications provider.”,

(c) after subsection (2) insert—

“(2A) Where OFCOM propose to set a general condition of a kind specified in subsection (2)(e), they must—

(a) notify the European Commission and BEREC, and

(b) take due account of comments and recommendations made by the Commission.”, and

(d) in subsection (4)(b) for “92” substitute “91”.