



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry of Enterprise, Development, Technology and Transport
Suite 771
Europort
Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

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Recent change in Ministers responsible for Communications will not represent any change in Government policy or approach to telecommunications

The recent change in Ministers responsible for Communications will not represent any change in Government policy or approach to telecommunications. The Government rejects as incorrect the greater part of the statements recently made by a local telecoms company CTS.

Gibraltar's telecoms legislation complies fully with the relevant EU directives. To the extent that the Minister has had to make policy and other decisions, these have been made responsibly, objectively and fairly in compliance with the Communications Act, in support of the independent telecoms regulation, proper competition and the public interest of Gibraltar.

So called "local loop unbundling" or "last mile" access, where an alternative operator, can gain access to another operator's copper wire network to homes is fully provided for in Gibraltar law and operationally available.

Number portability is also provided for by law and will be introduced in practice as soon as the GRA installs in Gibraltar the technology and equipment to host the sensitive subscriber information. The substantial costs involved will be shared between all telecoms operators in Gibraltar.

The Government rejects the statements by CTS that there is not a level competitive playing field. The regulator, the GRA have conducted various Gibraltar market analyses on the basis of which certain obligations have been placed on Gibtelecom precisely to ensure such a level playing field. The analyses have been submitted to the EU over the last 3 years and have been accepted. The reports are publicly available in the GRA's and EU's websites.