

News Release

3 March 2009

RESPONDING TO OFCOM'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE FUTURE REGULATION OF SUPERFAST BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS CONSUMER PANEL CHAIR ANNA BRADLEY SAID:

"We welcome Ofcom's statement to promote the development of superfast broadband in the UK. It strikes the right balance between encouraging investment now, and enabling consumers and citizens to benefit from exciting new services and applications. We believe that this gives industry the degree of certainty that it needs to invest.

"The Communications Consumer Panel would like superfast broadband to be available to as many people in the UK as possible. So, we welcome the Government's decision to explore as part of the Digital Britain process whether action is needed prevent the emergence of a new digital divide at the same time as the roll out of superfast broadband gathers pace."

Ends

NOTES FOR EDITORS AND CSEs

The Communications Consumer Panel was established to advise Ofcom on the consumer interest in the markets it regulates. The Panel is independent and sets its own agenda. Visit <u>www.communicationsconsumerpanel.org.uk</u> for more information. The Panel's members appointed by Ofcom are:

- Anna Bradley (Chairman)
- Fiona Ballantyne (member for Scotland)
- Louisa Bolch
- Kim Brook (member for Wales)
- Colin Browne
- Roger Darlington (member for England)
- Maureen Edmondson (member for Northern Ireland)
- Leen Petre
- Damian Tambini
- Bob Warner

For further information about Communications Consumer Panel members go to http://www.communciationsconsumerpanel.org.uk/about/

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