



Press Release

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People in Wales are lagging behind in race to become a digital nation

Responding to the publication today of the Ofcom Communications Markets Review (CMR) in Wales, Communications Consumer Panel member for Wales Kim Brook said:

“The latest communications review for the UK nations and regions shows significantly lower take-up of broadband in Wales. We clearly still have some way to go before the UK becomes a broadband nation.

“People in Wales risk missing out on the social and economic benefits of being online because they have limited access to fixed-line broadband. The growing number of low income, mobile-only households in Wales is a further barrier - without a landline people can’t access the internet, and mobile broadband is still in its infancy.

The UK governments must ensure that people are not left out as more and more services and products are put online, and operators need to roll out mobile broadband to provide universal access across all four UK nations.”

Ends

CONTACTS

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NOTES TO EDITORS

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 www.communicationsconsumerpanel.org.uk for more information.

The Panel's members appointed by Ofcom are:

- Anna Bradley (Chair)
- 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