

30 November 2012

Information Notice

The Isle of Man Communications Commission recently completed a review of fixed telecoms markets, issuing a Determination and a Decision Notice on retail fixed markets in September 2012. One outcome of this review was that Manx Telecom was found to have significant market power (SMP) in the market for retail voice calls from a fixed location (see Notification of Market Power Determination: Retail Fixed Markets Decision Notice 2012/01¹). As one of the remedies to address this SMP, Manx Telecom now has an obligation of non discrimination between retail customers.²

Following Decision Notice 2012/01 coming into effect on 11 October 2012, as part of the implementation of their SMP obligations, Manx Telecom has reviewed its fixed-mobile pricing structure, and has voluntarily proposed a new set of fixed-to-mobile call prices. These prices will be identical for calls from MT landlines to MT mobiles and Sure mobiles, and will result in MT fixed line calls to Sure mobiles being reduced significantly on all bundles.

On a separate but related matter, in its recent Response to Consultation and notification of market power Determinations and Decision Notice 2012/03³ on mobile communications markets (31 October 2012), the Commission directed that MT and C&WIOM shall in future have an obligation to comply with directions on the setting of Mobile Termination Rates (MTRs). This Decision Notice came into effect on 30 November. It is the Commission's intention that MTRs shall come down and these reductions should benefit consumers through further reductions in mobile call charges in 2013.

¹ See <http://www.gov.im/lib/docs/cc/consultations/retailfixeddecisionfinal1191.pdf>

² The obligation is under condition 43.2.2 of MT's licence granted under section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 (of Tynwald). Paragraph xix of Decision 2012/01 states "In accordance with Condition 34.2.2 of its Licence is hereby directed not to unduly discriminate between its retail customers."

³ <http://www.gov.im/lib/docs/cc/consultations/mobilecommunicationsmarketsrespon.pdf>