

REGULATION

Ofcom

Source: *Pricing trends for communications services*

This report looks at pricing trends for residential phone, broadband and TV services in the UK. It examines the prices of standalone and bundled services currently available, and what consumers actually pay for these services [[read more](#)].

Advanced Television

Source: *US Senate overturns Restoring Internet Freedom Order*

The US Senate has voted to overturn the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Restoring Internet Freedom Order which replaced previous net neutrality legislation, passing a bill that has little chance of advancing in the House but offers net neutrality supporters and Democrats a political rallying point for the midterm elections [[read more](#)].

Cullen International

Source: *European Parliament presses Commission to act against Italian data retention law*

The Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) committee of the European Parliament exchanged views with the European Commission on the Italian law that extended the data retention period for telecommunications metadata to six years [[read more](#) – subscription required].

SPECTRUM

Total Telecom

Source: *BT and EE aim for 5G in 2019*

BT has said that it will aim to launch 5G before the end of 2019, through its mobile subsidiary EE [[read more](#)].

Total Telecom

Source: *Qatar and the UAE face off over world's first "5G" network deployment*

Qatari network operator, Ooredoo, claims to have launched the world's first 5G network in the 3.5GHz spectrum band [[read more](#)].

PolicyTracker

Source: *Policymakers to stop adding difficult issues to standing WRC agenda items*

World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) agenda items 7, 9.1 and 9.2 always concern recurring issues that regularly require amendments to the Radio Regulations. The increased use of these items is now attracting the attention of policymakers as they start to consider potential agenda items for WRC-23 and beyond as part of WRC-19 agenda item 10 [[read more](#) – subscription required].

PolicyTracker

Source: *FCC wants mobile broadband to have more spectrum at 2.5GHz*

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that raises the prospect of an auction of 2.5 GHz spectrum in the mostly rural areas where it is not already assigned to the Educational Broadband Service [[read more](#) – subscription required].

INTERNET

Advanced Television

Source: *UK broadband 51% slower than advertised*

British households are paying for broadband services that are, on average, 51% slower than advertised, according to analysis from consumer association 'Which?' [[read more](#)].

European Commission

Source: Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecom: €13 million to reinforce the EU's Cybersecurity

The European Commission has published the 2018-3 Call for proposals under the CEF programme to stimulate and sustain the deployment of European Digital Services (DSIs). Up to €13 million will be accessible for applicants from all EU Member States, Iceland and Norway [[read more](#)].

Advanced Television

Source: Research: Telecoms, pay-TV spend to speed up

Worldwide spending on telecommunications and pay-TV services reached \$1,662 billion (€1,389 bn) in 2017, an increase of 1.4 per cent year over year (in constant dollar terms), according to market intelligence firm the International Data Corporation's (IDC) Worldwide Telecom Services Database [[read more](#)].

INNOVATION

Total Telecom

Source: Openreach begins consultation period on digital voice services

Openreach has begun a consultation process with its Communication Provider customers, over the digitalisation of voice services. The consultation will pave the way for the rollout of Voice over IP services, following the removal of traditional voice services, which run over legacy infrastructure, set to be removed in 2025 [[read more](#)].

INFORMATION SOCIETY

European Commission

Source: How digital is your country? Europe needs Digital Single Market to boost its digital performance

The European Commission has published the results of the 2018 Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), a tool which monitors the performance of Member States in digital connectivity, digital skills online activity, the digitisation of businesses and digital public services [[read more](#)].

European Commission

Source: WiFi4EU: Municipalities can start applying for EU financing of free wireless internet hotspots in public spaces

The first call for municipality applications for free Wi-Fi hotspots will open on Tuesday 15 May, at 13:00 (CEST). Through this call, some 1,183 municipalities will receive a WiFi4EU voucher of €15,000 to finance Wi-Fi equipment and its installation in public spaces [[read more](#)].

POST

Post&Parcel

Source: Debating the Future of the Universal Postal Service

The Swiss Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication (DETEC) has published the results of the working group on the future of the universal postal service [[read more](#)].

Cullen International

Source: France to ensure electronic registered mail the same legal value as physical mail

France adopted a decree which grants electronic registered mail the same legal status as its hard copy counterpart [[read more](#) – subscription required].

Cullen International

Source: UK: Exceptional circumstances negatively impact the quality of universal service

Royal Mail (RM), the designated universal service provider (USP), did not achieve its annual quality of service performance targets, according to its published measurements for the financial year 2017/2018 [[read more](#) – subscription required].

Austrian Post

Source: Austrian Post Q1 2018

Austrian Post is called upon to adapt its service offering in the mail business to current customer requirements. The basic downward trend in mail volumes prevailing in recent years continued, with a drop of about 5% in traditional addressed mail in the first quarter of 2018 [[read more](#)].

Cullen International

Source: Belgian regulator asks bpost to improve customer service for public services

The Belgian regulator BIPT would like bpost, the Belgian universal service provider (USP), to improve certain aspects of its customer service [[read more](#) – subscription required].

Post&Parcel

Source: Mind the Gap!

A new report from Sorted has highlighted a growing gap between consumers' expectations of the delivery experience and what retailers are prepared to offer [[read more](#)].

