



Notification Number: 2015/688/UK

High speed electronic communications networks - Approved Document R

Date received : 07/12/2015

End of Standstill : 08/03/2016

Issue of comments by : Commission

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2015) 03815

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2015/0688/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201503815.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2015 0688 UK EN 07-12-2015 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
European Reform Directorate
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

Email: 9834@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

3. Originating Department

Welsh Government



Economy, Skills and Natural Resources
Planning Division - Building Regulations
Rhyd Y Car
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 1UZ

4. Notification Number

2015/0688/UK - B00

5. Title

High speed electronic communications networks - Approved Document R

6. Products Concerned

The Building Regulations provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings and the sustainability of buildings for current and future generations. In order to do this they set standards through both technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Therefore this notification has relevance for services including design and construction services for controlled building works and related construction products.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The Building Regulations 2010 provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings, setting technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Statutory guidance on ways of meeting the functional requirements of these regulations are provided in Approved Documents.

Article 8 of the 2014 Broadband Cost Reduction Directive (Directive 2014/61/EU) requires that all new buildings, and major renovations, have the necessary in-building physical infrastructure in place to enable connections to super-fast broadband. Article 8 does not require buildings are connected to broadband services. The requirement is to provide in built physical infrastructure (e.g. ducts and distribution), to enable broadband services to be easily connected to the building. The purpose of Article 8 is that buildings should be equipped to receive broadband (an access point) and in larger multi-dwelling buildings to provide ducting to allow cables carrying the broadband signal to be fed to the individual units of the building. The provision of the cables in the ducting is not a matter for the transposition of Article 8.

In Wales, the Welsh Government proposes to implement European requirements for broadband in-building physical infrastructure through the Building Regulations. The Regulations offer an established route for setting requirements for buildings. The intention is to transpose European requirements into the Building Regulations as closely as possible. The Welsh Government also intends to create new statutory guidance: Approved Document R - High Speed Electronic Communications Networks.

Once requirements are set in the Building Regulations, developers will be required to ensure that all new buildings and major renovations have the necessary in-building physical infrastructure to enable those buildings to be connected to super-fast broadband services.

It will fall to Building Control Bodies to ensure that the requirements of the Regulations have been met.



9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The European Commission sets broadband targets for all Member States. In the 2014 Broadband Cost Reduction Directive (Directive 2014/61/EU) the Commission sets out specific infrastructure requirements aimed at increasing broadband speeds and provision across the European Union. The Commission defines a 'high-speed' network as being capable of delivering access speeds of at least 30 Mbps.

The Directive requires implementation of a range of measures that aim to reduce the cost of rolling out networks, by promoting deployment over existing physical infrastructures (both telecoms and a range of other infrastructure sectors), and requiring coordination of civil works that use public funding (Articles 3 and 5). There are complementary requirements to share certain minimum information about existing physical infrastructure and about planned civil engineering works (Articles 4 and 6).

The Directive also requires a four month deadline for certain permits (Article 7) and creation of a 'single information point' to provide information on permits and direct users to minimum information provided under Article 6. New buildings and major renovations must include a minimum standard of in-building physical infrastructure (Article 8) and providers of high-speed networks must have certain rights to access this infrastructure (Article 9). Most of these measures require dispute resolution functions and appeal to a court (Article 10).

This consultation is concerned with the implementation in Wales of Article 8 of the Directive. Article 8 requires that all new buildings, and major renovations, have the necessary in-building physical infrastructure in place to enable connections to super-fast broadband. Article 8 does not require buildings are connected to broadband services. The requirement is to provide in built physical infrastructure (e.g. ducts and distribution), to enable broadband services to be easily connected to the building. The purpose of Article 8 is that buildings should be equipped to receive broadband (an access point) and in larger multi-dwelling buildings to provide ducting to allow cables carrying the broadband signal to be fed to the individual units of the building. The provision of the cables in the ducting is not a matter for the transposition of Article 8.

The remainder of Directive 2014/61/EU will be implemented at a UK level, with a consultation by the Department of Culture Media and Sport.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No



15. Impact assessment

Yes

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

Yes

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

European Commission

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