

EXPLANATORY NOTES

DIGITAL ECONOMY ACT 2010

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

STRUCTURE OF THE ACT

TERRITORIAL EXTENT AND APPLICATION

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Topic 1: OFCOM reports

Section 1: OFCOM reports on infrastructure, internet domain names etc.

Section 2: OFCOM reports on media content

Topic 2: Online infringement of copyright

Background

Section 3: Obligation to notify subscribers of reported infringements

Section 4: Obligation to provide infringement lists to copyright owners

Section 5: Approval of code about the initial obligations

Section 6: Initial obligations code by OFCOM in the absence of an approved code

Section 7: Contents of the initial obligations code

Section 8: Progress reports

Section 9: Obligations to limit internet access: assessment and preparation

Section 10: Obligations to limit internet access

Section 11: Code by OFCOM about obligations to limit internet access

Section 12: Contents of code about obligations to limit internet access

Section 13: Subscriber appeals

Section 14: Enforcement of obligations

Section 15: Sharing of costs

Section 17: Power to make provision about injunctions preventing access to locations on the internet

Section 18 Consultation and Parliamentary scrutiny

Topic 3: Powers in relation to internet domain names

Background

Section 19: Powers in relation to internet domain registries

Section 20: Appointment of manager of internet domain registry

Section 21: Application to court to alter constitution of internet domain registry

Topic 4: Channel 4 Television Corporation

Background

Section 22: Functions of C4C in relation to media content

Section 23: Monitoring and enforcing C4C's media content duties

Topic 5: Independent television services

Background

Section 24: Determination of Channel 3 licence areas

Section 25: Initial expiry date for Channel 3 and 5 and public teletext licences

Section 27: Report by OFCOM on public teletext service

Section 28: Power to remove OFCOM's duty to secure provision of public teletext service

Section 29: Broadcasting of programmes in Gaelic

Topic 6: Independent radio services

Background

Section 30: Digital switchover

Section 31: Renewal of national radio licences

Section 32: Renewal and variation of local radio licences

Section 33: Variation of licence period following renewal

Section 34: Content and character of local sound broadcasting services

Section 35: Radio multiplex services: frequency and licensed area

Section 36: Renewal of radio multiplex licences

Topic 7: Regulation of television and radio services

Section 37: Application of regulatory regimes to broadcasters

Topic 8: Access to electromagnetic spectrum

Background

Section 38: Payment for licences

Section 39: Enforcement of licence terms etc

Topic 9: Video recordings

Background

Section 40: Classification of video games etc

Section 41: Designated authority for video games

Schedule 1: Classification of video games etc – supplementary provision

Topic 10: Copyright and performers' property rights: penalties

Section 42: Increase of penalties relating to infringing articles or illicit recordings

Topic 11: Public lending right

Background

Section 43: Public lending right

General sections

Section 44: Power to make consequential provision etc.

Section 45: Repeals

Section 46: Extent

COMMENCEMENT

HANSARD REFERENCES