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**The proposed Welsh Language (Wales) Measure – additional evidence to  
Legislation Committee No.2**

19 May 2010

Dear Hamish

1. You recently gave evidence on behalf of the Mobile Broadband Group to the National Assembly's Legislative Committee 2 as part of its stage 1 consideration of the proposed Welsh Language (Wales) Measure. I am very grateful to you for attending the meeting and for contributing to a very informative evidence session.

2. Unfortunately in the session on 13 May, time ran out before all the issues had been covered and I am therefore writing to ask you if you could provide answers in writing to the following questions:

- a) At paragraph 8 of your written evidence, you state that 'comparison of costs for 'large organisations' with public bodies and former publicly owned utilities already providing Welsh language services is not a fair comparison and cost estimates for what Schedule 9 entails are likely to be severely underestimated.' Could you elaborate on this further? In particular, why is this not a fair comparison, and why are cost estimates "likely to be severely underestimated"?
- b) At paragraph 28 of your written evidence, you refer to time and cost involved in developing Welsh language services, and the potential negative impact of that on other consumer issues. Can you specify what you understand the nature and the extent of those time and cost implications to be?
- c) Have you any views on how the provisions in the proposed Measure will impact on consumers in practical terms?

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3. The following question was based on evidence presented by the UKCTA, however given its relevance to mobile and broadband providers, the Committee would appreciate any additional comments you may have on the issue:

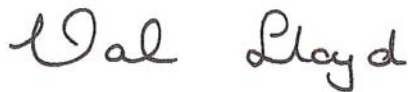
(d) In UKCTA's written evidence, it is noted that no UKCTA members are based in Wales and to the extent that they serve Welsh customers, they do so from elsewhere in the UK. On this basis, the UKCTA state that it is unclear how the proposed Measure can have jurisdiction over its members. Given that some of your members operate internationally (and also serve other jurisdictions within the UK), could not this same argument be made concerning regulation that is imposed in other jurisdictions?

4. During your evidence session, you also agreed to ask Telefonica to provide the Committee with a written memorandum of how it would rate the proposed Measure in comparison with language legislation in the Basque Country, Catalunya and Galicia where it has experience in dealing with minority languages.

5. Could you please reply to all of the above points by 4 June.

6. I hope these are clear but please do not hesitate to contact the Committee's Deputy Clerk, Owain Roberts on 029 2089 8101 (owain.roberts@wales.gsi.gov.uk) if you want to discuss these issues further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Val Lloyd".

Val Lloyd AM  
Chair, Legislation Committee No 2