



Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

Notice of Public Consultation on Telecommunications Code (Part 5A) (Licensing of Telecommunications Networks & Services) Requirements, 2021

(3rd June 2021)

TAKE NOTICE THAT:

In accordance with section 6(d) of the Telecommunications Act, 2006 (**Act**), the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of the Virgin Islands (**Commission**) is responsible for the regulation of licensees and authorisation holders and for ensuring fair competition among licensees and all other operators of telecommunications networks and providers of telecommunications services. Additionally, in accordance with section 6(e) of the Act, the Commission shall determine applications for licences for any purpose specified in the Act.

The Commission considers that it is in the interests of the public, and in keeping with the Commission's mandate under the Act, to regularise the process for licensing the operation of telecommunications networks and provisions of telecommunications services, so as to ensure greater transparency in its decision making. Accordingly, the Commission has developed the Draft Telecommunications Code (Part 5A) (Licensing of Telecommunications Networks & Services) Requirements, 2021 (**Requirements**) to establish a framework for the application process in relation to the grant, transfer, modification and renewal of licences for the operation of telecommunications networks and provision of telecommunications services in the British Virgin Islands. These Requirements are applicable to all new entrants, as well as existing licenced public suppliers in the telecommunications services industry, for which the Commission has responsibility.

The consultation will be open to the public as we seek to receive views from all interested stakeholders, citizens and businesses of the Virgin Islands. The Commission shall, at least fourteen (14) days before the commencement of the consultation, publish notice of same on the Commission's website and in a newspaper published and circulated in the Virgin Islands.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT:

The Commission shall commence a public consultation on the Requirements on 17 June 2021. In accordance with Part II, section 7(2) of the Telecommunications Code (Part 1) (Public Consultations and Public Hearings) Guidelines, 2010, responses to the public consultation shall be due 28 days from the date of publication of the consultation document. Accordingly, the consultation will close on 15 July 2021.

When published, the consultation document will be made available at the Reception desk of the office of the Commission located at 3rd Floor, LM Business Centre, Fish Lock Road, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Alternatively, a copy of the consultation document will be available on our website (www.trc.vg). Instructions for responding to the consultation will be included in the consultation documents.

The person responsible for this consultation is Mr. Guy L. Malone, Chief Executive Officer, and he can be contacted at gmalone@trc.vg concerning this consultation. All queries in relation to this consultation should be copied to Mrs. Chantal L. Flax-Ward, Chief Legal Advisor, at cflax-ward@trc.vg.

Issued by the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission on the 3rd day of June 2021.

(Sgd.) Guy L. Malone.

Chief Executive Officer