

A much improved communications infrastructure – in its broadest sense

An overview of the activities within Intellect/BSG in their booster

- A key focus for policy makers is how an effective and efficient transition can be made to a high-speed, high capacity, low cost broadband network. A wave of key announcements are expected this autumn that will drive this debate forward. These include the Caio Review into next generation networks and the regulatory statements on next generation access from Ofcom and the EC.
- Alongside this, as content is distributed across a mixed ecology of different broadcast platforms, there is a corresponding need for a clear and coherent roadmap to help develop a robust communications infrastructure. This level of coordination is necessary to ensure that the value chain can work together to deliver content effectively and consistently to the consumer, over the range of current and future available platforms.
- The work programmes of both the BSG and the Intellect Digital Comms and Convergence teams are focused on responding to these challenges. Current and future activity includes a report from the BSG this September on the potential costings associated with fibre roll-out and ongoing work by Intellect to develop mutual understanding between broadcasters and manufacturers.

What's Intellect doing?

- Intellect/Ofcom Forum
- Work programme to develop policy regime to encourage investment
- Board member of Digital UK delivering DTV switchover
- Provide tangible support for UK Space.
- Member of DCMS Digital Radio Working Group planning the future of Radio
- Member of DCMS and BERR Convergence Think Tank
- Providing tangible support for Broadband Stakeholder Group

Future activities in this area

- Ensuring that an efficient transition to a high-speed, high capacity, low cost broadband network is a key concern for policy makers, in respect of the benefits it could bring to consumers, public service delivery and the health of UK plc more broadly
- To set out a clear and coherent roadmap for a robust communications infrastructure to support the delivery of content, not only over broadband networks, but also over the full range of complimentary platforms available.
- Push for clarity and certainty about the regulatory framework that will underpin next generation broadband deployment in order to facilitate efficient investment.
- Ensure policy makers are working with the fully converged value chain to ensure current and future content is delivered in a technologically consistent and efficient way for the benefit of consumers.

What would good look like?

- High speed, high capacity, low cost broadband network
- Mixed ecology of low cost next generation broadcast platforms

Exam question for the Board to answer

- Is there significant congestion on our communications infrastructure? And if so, what should Intellect be trying to do about it?