

I have just familiarised myself with the ICSTIS consultation questionnaire and associated summary of its proposals. It is extraordinary that, notwithstanding the myriad complaints of abuse using non-geographic numbers, your fundamental approach will make no significant dent into the continued perpetration of these abuses. I seriously question whether the ICSTIS may be an instrument of the telecommunication industry and their clients with an agenda working on behalf of those organizations that use the system to generate additional revenue which, you know very well, is dishonestly acquired. Do you have any idea of the sheer anger and frustration that members of the public have to endure because of these abuses, contrived queuing on 087 numbers being the most offensive?

Instead of producing a bureaucrat's charter which you refer to as a "Consultation Questionnaire", would your organization please use some basic common sense and resist making a career out of formulating even more opportunities for telecommunication thefts. Any system that you propose that allows companies or individuals to contrive revenue creating opportunities without benefit to the public is plain criminal in intent and action. Why cannot you people see this? Why don't you simply purge the system using the kind of common sense expected of the man on the proverbial Clapham Omnibus? Anything that falls short of such common sense by providing new opportunities of fraud and theft can only lead to one horrible and disgusting conclusion: namely, that the ICSTIS and telecommunication industry along with their corrupt clients are working to a common agenda that ignores ethical codes of conduct and the lawful rights of the public to avail themselves of an honest, commercial service.

Two criteria that the ICSTS show no awareness of, are:

1. Providing the public with a commercial telecommunication facility that does not double-charge the public. Paying the Communication Provider a competitive rate is one thing; back-handers paid to their clients at the expense of the public is another, especially when the latter are the victims of contrived delays that are charged at premium rates.
2. Incentives to corrupt companies to continue generating undeclared, line revenues using the very system that you are proposing. What is the point of setting up another corruptible system?

Please do not make the mistake of disregarding the sheer anger engendered by past and present abuses perpetrated under the noses of the various "Regulating" bodies. The public are not stupid!

Dr Edward Willhoft