

An infrastructure service provider's perspective



WHP Telecoms Ltd is the UK's largest and leading supplier of end to end systems integration services for communications infrastructure – from network design (including optimum technology and network architecture choices), site planning and acquisition and negotiating local regulatory permissions to building, testing and commissioning of all manner of (mainly) wireless and satellite communications infrastructure. We cover a range of sectors from mobile communications, to utilities, rail and Local Government. In doing so, we work with all the main wireless equipment vendors as well as a number of specialist technology providers. This diversity of experience gives us a cross-cutting and relatively independent perspective on the key issues in digital communications infrastructure and markets: we are not tied to any particular technology, equipment vendor or network philosophy. Thus we are able to apply learning across sectors and mobile technologies and suppliers to device optimum networks / infrastructure solutions for the connectivity challenge at hand.

With our history of supporting MNOs to roll out networks, we fully support the release of spectrum including in the upcoming release of 700 MHz and 3.6 to 3.8 GHz, to ensure the economic roll out of 5G by the operators. In addition, we also support the availability on a shared basis of around 20 MHz of spectrum in the intermediate range (2.6 GHz / 3.6 GHz) for use by communications infrastructure service providers and others. An important application for the UK that would benefit from this is in improving broadband and WiFi availability on trains (and indeed on roads) – in particular, in addressing train to trackside connectivity. It would also be beneficial in facilitating shared infrastructure as a service (eg. Neutral Host platforms) in areas including rural where the economic case for self-implementing infrastructure for operators is marginal.

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