Building Britain's Future

dcms

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In context

- Building Britain's Future
- New active 'industrial policy'
- Industries in structural and cyclical change
- (Belated) recognition of infrastructure
- Economic recovery and regeneration – sectors of the future?

Background

- Communications policy traditionally done in silos
- Convergence makes us look at communications/ICT/Technology Media and Telecoms (TMT) sector in its full importance: £52bn turnover and vital enabler for rest of the economy
- First converged ministerial post
- Digital Britain Report delivers a comprehensive strategy for this sector

Digital Britain Report - process

- Action plan for Government in the area of digital technologies and communications – to 2012 and beyond. Interim Report end January, Final Report 16 June.
- Steering Board including Byron (Internet safety), Caio (next generation broadband) Gowers (intellectual property) and Cox (radio) to provide expert input
- Close contact with stakeholders across broadcasting, internet and communications sectors and beyond
- Outputs a combination of soft power,

  regulatory interventions, legislation

  and longer term aspirations

Digital Participation

- Three year national plan to improve Digital Participation
- £12m for targeted outreach and marketing
- Programme of Digital Switchover in public services
- Martha Lane Fox the new Champion for Digital Inclusion
- Revised remit for C4

Digital Infrastructure

- Universal access to today's broadband (2Mbps) by 2012
- Next Generation fund for tomorrow's broadband
- Mobile spectrum liberalisation
- Digital Radio upgrade 2015
- New role for Ofcom in assessing infrastructure

Digital Content

- Framework for tackling piracy
- Digital Test Beds to promote innovation around digital content
- New uses of TV licence fee, primarily to secure news in the nations, regions and nationally
- New direction for Channel 4
- Guidance and clarification on the

  media mergers regime

Reactions

- ‘Ambitious…strong vision’…Ian Livingstone, BT
- ‘Worst report I’ve ever read’…attr. Mark Selby, VP Nokia
- People waiting for action – implementation vital
- Predictable focus on money
- Some confusion on broadband?

What happens next?

- Digital Economy Bill
- Big implementation challenges
- Working with Nations and Regions
- Limited institutional change
- General election!

Thank you