

Disclosures of interest: Classified Directory Advertising Services

Disclosure of member's interest

Professor Paul Geroski, the Chairman of the Competition Commission wishes to appoint Roger Davis, a member of the Commission, to the Group that is conducting this investigation.

In about 1983, as a partner in Coopers & Lybrand (a predecessor firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)), Mr Davis was asked by the Government independently to advise on the operation of the RPI-x formula, and particularly the value of "x", preparatory to the privatisation of British Telecommunications plc. This was a formula for BT as a whole, and he concentrated on the core telecommunications business. Mr Davis did not give any specific consideration to Yellow Pages. His involvement completely ceased on privatisation in 1984 and he has had no involvement with BT nor the telecommunications or classified directory industries since that date.

Mr Davis was a partner in PwC, Yell's and BT's auditors, until 31 December 2003. Mr Davis has confirmed that he had no involvement with Yell.

The Competition Commission does not believe that Mr Davis's past links with Coopers & Lybrand and PwC, or with the telecommunications industry, will compromise the ability of the group to discharge its functions in an independent and impartial manner.

11 May 2005

Disclosure of staff interests

Cathryn Ross, the Deputy Director of Remedies, worked as economic adviser to Oftel – which regulated BT – from July 2000 until December 2002.

Neither the Commission nor Ms Ross believe that the matter disclosed above in relation to her will affect her ability to advise the Group.

21 April 2005

Dr Bill Roberts will be acting as Business Adviser to the group of members conducting the Classified directories advertising services market inquiry.

Dr Roberts worked, on a project basis, for Ocean Consulting, a firm specialising in the media sector, in 2003 and 2004. During this time he worked on a study of recruitment advertising by public authorities for a regional newspaper publisher.

Neither the Commission nor Dr Roberts believes that Dr Roberts' work for Ocean will prejudice his ability to advise the group of members independently and impartially.

1 June 2005

Richard Davies, Economic Assistant on the Classified directories advertising services market inquiry, between September 2003 and August 2004 worked for an economic advisory firm which is now advising Yell. During his time at that firm, Mr Davies did not work for Yell.

Neither the Commission nor Mr Davies believe that the matter disclosed above in relation to him will affect his ability to advise the Group.

8 November 2005