COMMONS REASON

[*The clause number refers to HL Bill 16, the bill as first printed for the Lords*]

After Clause 74

LORDS AMENDMENT 17

17 Insert the following new Clause –

"Independent review of the electronic communications code

- (1) Within the period of three months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must appoint an independent person to undertake a review of the effect of
 - (a) the electronic communications code, and
 - (b) the Telecommunications Infrastructure (Leasehold Property) Act 2021,

on the deployment of 1 gigabit per second broadband and other forms of telecommunications infrastructure.

- (2) The review under subsection (1) must, in addition to any other matters the Secretary of State deems appropriate, include consideration of
 - (a) the extent to which revisions to the electronic communications code have secured progress towards His Majesty's Government's targets relating to telecommunications infrastructure,
 - (b) the balance of rights and responsibilities of landowners and telecommunications operators, and
 - (c) the impact of this Act on the level of competition in the telecommunications sector.
- (3) The independent person may make recommendations to the Secretary of State on matters including (but not limited to)
 - (a) potential further revisions to the electronic communications code,
 - (b) potential amendments to
 - (i) legislation, or
 - (ii) guidance,

relating to the valuation of land used to host telecommunications

infrastructure, and

- (c) the potential benefits of imposing a requirement for telecommunications operators to report annually to OFCOM on their investment in new infrastructure.
- (4) Upon receipt of the report from the independent person, the Secretary of State must
 - (a) publish the report,
 - (b) prepare a response to the report, and
 - (c) lay a copy of the report and response before Parliament."

COMMONS REASON

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment 17 for the following Reason -

17A Because it would give rise to a new head of public expenditure, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

Product Security and Telecommunications Infrastructure Bill

COMMONS REASON

1st November 2022

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

HL Bill 65

58/3