BT Compliance Committee Bulletin 20 | January 2023 Meeting

About us

The BT Compliance Committee (BTCC) is a BT Group plc Board Committee, responsible for monitoring and reporting on BT's compliance with the Commitments and Governance Protocol. This is our 20th Bulletin reporting on our January 2023 meeting.

The BTCC is supported by the Commitments Assurance Office (CAO). Further information about the BTCC and CAO can be found <u>here</u>.

Key Topics

Priorities for 2023/24

The Committee received updates on priorities and the plan of work for 2023 /2024 from BT's Regulatory Affairs Director and CAO Director. This focused upon the Commitments and DCR outcomes portion of the Committee's remit and took a risk-based approach to ongoing monitoring activity. The Committee heard of BT Group's continued vigilance against internal and external risks that could create tension for the Commitments and DCR outcomes. The CAO Director detailed those risks and how the CAO intends to prioritise monitoring work. The proposed program of work for the BTCC for 2023/24 was set out. The Committee stressed the importance of ensuring that the Commitments remain at the forefront of people's minds given the macro environment and associated risks. The Committee asked that this be considered within the proposed review of culture, which was agreed would be brought forward from October to July's BTCC. The Committee approved the proposed 23/24 programme of work updated with these minor adjustments.

Equinox 2

The Committee heard updates from BT Regulatory Affairs Director and the CAO Director on a review that was undertaken by Openreach in relation to the Equinox 2 pricing proposal. The outcome of this review was positive with no Commitments breaches identified. A number of recommendations for improvement were identified to further strengthen governance, support Commitments compliance, and facilitate effective monitoring of similar proposals in the future. The Committee agreed with the proposals and noted that no further action was required.

Systems Separation

The Committee received further updates from BT's Regulatory Affairs Director on systems separation activity. BT and Openreach are currently working with the business to assess outcomesbased options for systems hosted in the cloud in order to ensure ongoing compliance and respect the original purpose of systems separation. The Committee's feedback on progress and approach was provided.

Exchange Closures

The Committee received updates from BT's CAO Director on the CAO's monitoring plan for exchange closures. The CAO confirmed it will continue to monitor the life cycle of the exchange closure programme, with short-term focus on the areas of governance still being developed and will share progress with the Committee. The Committee's feedback on approach was provided, and no concerns were raised.

Regular reporting

The Committee was updated on ongoing monitoring of core processes intended to support the Commitments (financial planning, commercial processes, and strategy) and projects. Processes are running as expected and no significant issues were identified.

Commitments Cases

There were no breach cases for decision since the October 2022 meeting.

Our next meeting

The BTCC's next meeting will be on 5th April 2023

CAO, March 2022