fair telecoms campaign **news release**

The 084 / 087 rip-off continues

The **fair telecoms campaign** has had considerable success in eliminating use of rip-off 084 and 087 numbers, e.g. by GPs, all government departments and customer support lines. There are however areas where this abuse continues.

Pursuit of a particular case and wider research across the **alarm monitoring sector** has enabled exposure, through this article published by the **Daily Mail**:

The truth about your home's alarm system and how Britons are being left with a huge secret bill for making a crisis call.

We have all the detailed evidence to support the naming of many particular firms in this article. We are keen that they (and their backers) be further pursued, hopefully to the point where they are moved to comply with the law and abandon their rip-off.

Please get in touch for full details and briefing covering these examples and other areas that warrant attention.

A wider issue demanding attention is **Ofcom**'s failure to go ahead with its proposal to close down the 084 and 087 ranges entirely. We see no good reason for their retention; they simply provide an opportunity for abuse. All (justifiable) use of premium rate numbers may be confined to the recognised 09 range.

Again, we have detailed briefing on this issue and strong arguments as to why **Ofcom** should now change its position.

David Hickson

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