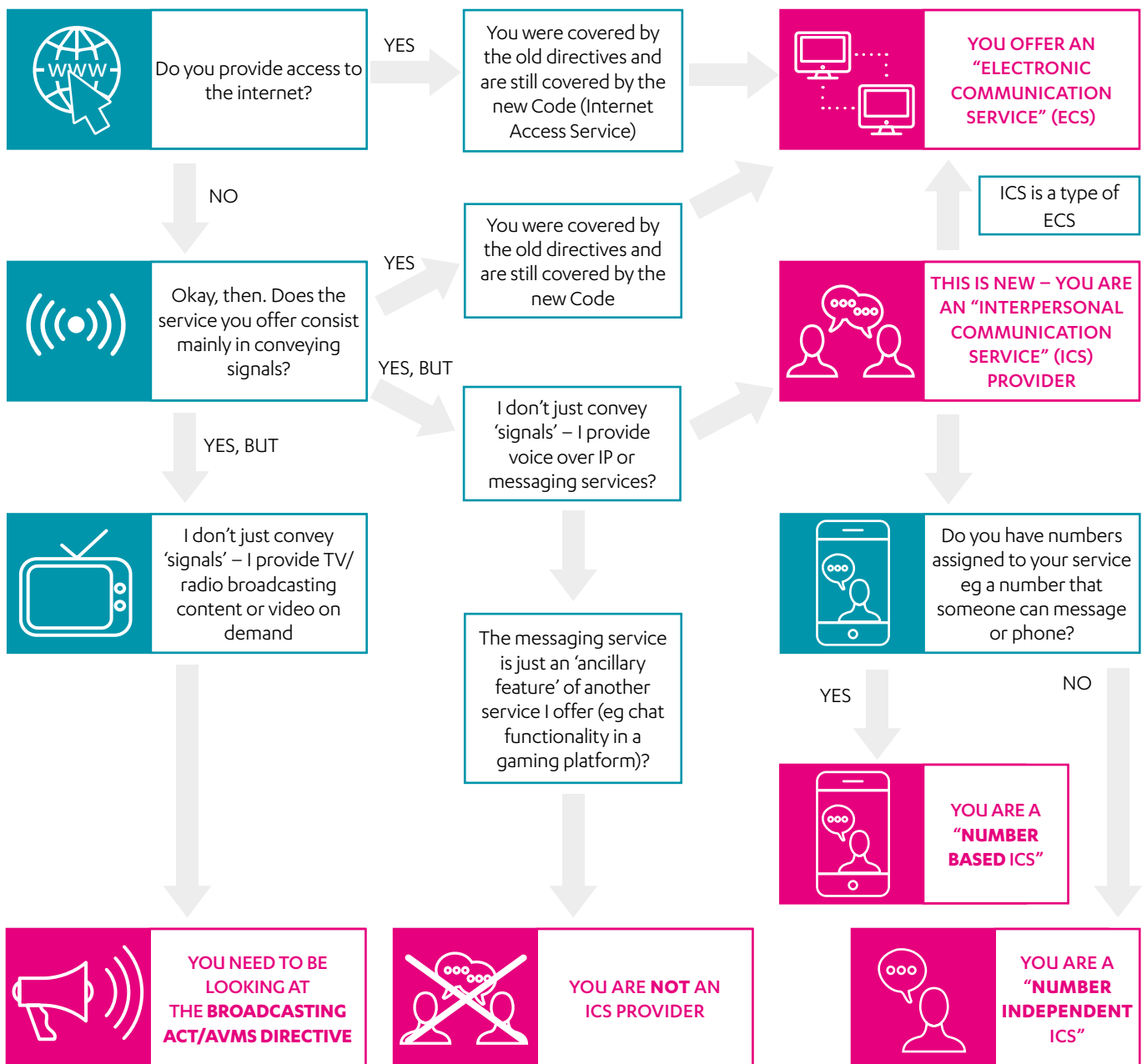


# Am I regulated by the new EU Electronic Communications Code?



### Why is the European electronic communication code relevant to me?

- The European Electronic Communications Code (“Code”) will revise and update the current European communications regulatory framework
- All traditional telephony, mobile, SMS, MMS, broadcasting transmission services, machine to machine communications, VoIP and over-the-top (OTT) services will be covered by the new Code
- Member States, including the UK, need to adopt the code into national law by 21 December 2020
- The UK government and Ofcom are finalising their proposals to implement the Code in the UK

### If I am an “ECS” or an “ICS” under the new code, what does that mean for me?

- All “Electronic Communication Service” (ECS) providers need to comply with Ofcom’s General Conditions of Entitlement (GCs)
- “Interpersonal Communication Service” (ICS) providers will now also need to comply with the GCs – they are a sub-category of ECS
- A number of provisions will apply to ICS providers and relate to consumer protection matters, including provisions that will need to be included in contracts, transparency and information requirements, and equivalency access for disabled users
- There are also a number of increased requirements around regulation of bundle offers, easier switching between services and prohibitions on locking of devices that will apply to fixed line and mobile comms ECS providers

### When will these changes happen?

- The UK will need to adopt the code into national law by 21 December 2020
- The obligations of NI-ICS providers (such as WhatsApp or Zoom) are likely to however be de-prioritised as part of the implementation of the Code and will be implemented at a later date
- In order for suppliers to meet the new consumer protection requirements, Ofcom will also allow providers at least 12 months from the date of its “statement” (due this Autumn) to implement the new rules

### Where can I find the proposed changes?

- The new Code is available [here](#)
- These are [Ofcom’s proposals](#) to amend the General Conditions

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