



## Fair mobile phone charging!

Mobile phone companies have been charging consumers up to 5 times the real cost of making or receiving a call in another EU country. After a two year campaign Labour Euro MPs won the day in persuading the European Parliament to back our plan to reduce costs for consumers. We now have a new law which has slashed costs by half and forces operators to inform the consumer exactly how much they will pay to make and receive calls.

When we introduced the regulation on mobile phone roaming charges across Europe we warned the industry that if they did not act to reduce the costs of SMS roaming then we would also seek to regulate in this area. The industry has not taken sufficient action to reduce the cost of SMS and data charging and we are now left with no option but to legislate to force the industry to reduce their charges.

The message is clear, we will take on industry when there is clear evidence of over-charging and we will win a fairer deal for consumers. We have done this successfully for mobile phone roaming charges and we will now do it for SMS and data charging.

Arlene McCarthy MEP  
 Local Labour Euro MP  
 Express Networks  
 1 George Leigh Street  
 Manchester M4 5DL  
 T: 0161 906 0801  
 E: arlene.mccarthy@easynet.co.uk  
 www.arlenemccarthy.labour.co.uk