



**competition commission**  
south africa

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**Date:** 13 September 2018

**To:** All stakeholders

## **NOTICE: PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR THE DATA SERVICES MARKET INQUIRY**

1. The Competition Commission (“the Commission”) initiated an inquiry into data costs on 18 August 2017 with the release of the Terms of Reference for the Data Services Market Inquiry (“the Inquiry”). The formal call for submissions was published on 20 September 2017 to invite all stakeholders to make formal submissions to participate in the Inquiry. The relevant documents including non-confidential versions of submissions received are all available on the Commission’s website at [www.compcom.co.za/data-market-inquiry](http://www.compcom.co.za/data-market-inquiry).
2. The Commission hereby informs all stakeholders that it will be holding public hearings for the Inquiry on **17 and 18 October 2018** at the Commission’s offices in Pretoria. Stakeholders are invited to participate in the public hearings by making oral submissions.
3. Stakeholders who wish to participate by making oral submissions should communicate their interest to do so to the Commission’s Inquiry team by no later than **21 September 2018**. Expressions of interest must be sent to the Commission’s Inquiry team on [datainquiry@compcom.co.za](mailto:datainquiry@compcom.co.za). Slots for oral submissions are expected to be no longer than 30 minutes. However, this will depend on the number of participants.
4. Note that the Commission will require participating stakeholders to make written submissions prior to the oral submissions. Written submissions should be received by the Commission by no later than **11 October 2018**.
5. Submissions in respect of the public hearings should focus on the following key questions:
  - 5.1. Are data prices in South Africa (whether mobile, fixed or other) higher than they ought to be?
  - 5.2. To the extent that data prices in South Africa are higher than they ought to be, what are the factors that drive these outcomes?

- 5.3. How can these factors be effectively remedied?
- 5.4. What is the impact of data prices and access to data more broadly on lower-income customers, rural customers, small businesses and the unemployed? How important are affordable data prices for these customers?
6. Should there be any further enquiries regarding the above, please communicate this to the Inquiry team on [datainquiry@compcom.co.za](mailto:datainquiry@compcom.co.za) or contact Arthur Mahuma on 012 762 6976 or Tessa Bleazard on 012 763 8665.

Kind regards

**THE DATA SERVICES MARKET INQUIRY TEAM**