Defining the "Public Internet"

A little something for (other) policy folk?

The problem

- In the rest of policy-land other policy-folk have lots of really interesting ideas!

- Then they want to make rules for the "public Internet"

- Of course they all understand the Internet ...

The Internet is so easy ...

And weighs about as much as a rather large strawberry?

... because its "wireless"?

But maybe we still need...

- Simple definitions

- Simple and non-confusing analogies

- Clear concepts

The Internet

- A global network of computer networks which use the Internet Protocol

- And all of those networks are effectively private and have firewalls and access controls and so on and so on

- Which means the "public Internet" is ... ?

The public Internet (and net neutrality)

- Easy definitions ...

- "The public Internet" = "the Internet"

- "Net neutrality" = "the five alls"

- "The five alls" = "all origins, all destinations, all ports, all protocols, all content"

- ... or maybe not

The public Internet (and Internet access)

- More definitions ...

- "The public Internet" = "publicly accessible electronic communications network of networks"

- "Internet access" = "publicly available electronic communications service"

- ... sort of from the EU regulatory community?

The "public Internet"?

- Seek inspiration from old ideas ...

- A software problem
  ... add another layer of indirection

- A network security problem
  ... postulate a global PKI

- So this time
  ... go up a layer?

A suggested definition

- The public Internet consists of the services that others make available across the Internet

- The services may be freely accessible, or require registration or identification, or require specific payment

Advantages

- A definition that everybody can relate to: from consumers to lawyers

- It recognises the autonomy of those who run other networks, those your access provider does *not* have contracts with

- It provides a basic product definition: best effort access to the public Internet