

## **Media Coverage Summary**

### **Overview:**

Over the past few months, there has been sustained and growing media coverage on the Electronic Communications Code and the planned expansion through the PSTI Act - spanning national, regional and trade publications. The stories have consistently highlighted how the current telecoms regime is fuelling a worsening connectivity crisis, the political implications of Labour's U-turn, and the disproportionate impact on farmers, churches, community landowners and rural areas. Coverage has also reflected escalating concern from coalitions, industry bodies and landowners, warning that extending the regime risks deepening blackspots, undermining 5G rollout, and damaging trust between operators and communities.

### **Coverage:**

- March 2026
  - [FarmingUK](#): Farmers and landowners warn mast reforms have slashed rents by 90%
  - [Northwich Guardian](#): Cheshire MP raises phone signal concern in the region
  
- February 2026
  - [Sussex Express](#): James McCleary MP calls on Government to do more to improve mobile connectivity in Lewes
  - [Falmouth Packet](#): Jayne Kirkham action to improve mobile connectivity Cornwall
  - [FarmingUK](#): 'Finding 4G is like striking gold': MPs hit out over countryside coverage
  - [Daily Express](#) (print): Rural areas 'gaslit' over phone signals
  - [Daily Express](#): Rural MPs accuse regulator of 'gaslighting' countryside communities
  - [Light Reading](#): Eurobites: Burger's off as BT resets top table
  - [City A.M.](#) (LI): Landowners hit as government pushes through 5G rent cuts
  - [City A.M.](#): Landowners hit as government pushes through 5G rent cuts
  - [FarmingUK](#): Farmers face sharp mast rent cuts as government extends 5G reforms
  - [The Telegraph](#): Britain is throwing away one of its last investment advantages
  
- January 2026
  - [Daily Express](#): Major Labour Party goal threatened as payments 'to slump by 90%'
  - [The Yorkshire Post](#): The broken policy behind Hebden Bridge's mobile blackspot
  
- December 2025
  - [The Pembrokeshire Herald](#): Farmers Union of Wales Warns: Labour's 5G Expansion Risks Rural Blackspots

- November 2025
  - [Sunday Express](#): Mobile mast rent cuts signal connection crisis
  - [Daily Express](#): Labour to deal major blow to UK churches – 'why would you do this?'
  - [The Herald](#): Scotland must 'close the gap' on 4G blackspots amid probe
- October 2025
  - [Sunday Express](#): Labour warned 'grossly unfair' prices on farmers putting 5G coverage target in doubt
  - [CapX](#): Our telecoms infrastructure is stuck in the past
- September 2025
  - [The Telegraph](#): Farmers threaten to derail 5G rollout as Labour cuts rents for mobile masts
  - [The Herald](#): Ian Murray warned to reverse 'damaging' 5G changes to avoid crisis
- August 2025
  - [Daily Express](#): Major Labour plan threatened as Brits have 'little choice but to walk away'
  - [Farmers Weekly](#): Farmers look to abandon phone mast contracts after rent cuts
- July 2025
  - [Daily Express](#): Labour 'land grab' reform warning as incomes 'cut by up to 90%'
- June 2025
  - [The Times](#): Landowners say phone mast rent cuts threaten 5G rollout
  - [City A.M.](#): London's 5G rollout is being strangled by a failed legal model
  - [Daily Express](#): Labour U-turn triggers '£209m loss a year' as churches and hospitals hit
  - [Farmers Weekly](#): Government plans to expand mobile mast rent reductions
- May 2025
  - [Manchester Evening News](#): Manchester 'falling behind' in race to rollout 5G – and bureaucracy is to blame
- April 2025
  - [Mobile Europe](#): Brussels outpaces Britain on 5G – but better policy could fix it