

Icasa addresses data cost debate

Icasa has stepped into the ongoing war between consumers and network providers over the high cost of data. The communications regulator has published a notice of its intention to conduct an inquiry to determine the priority markets in the electronic communications sector. A report on the [Fin24](#) site notes that the notice forms part of a number of initiatives Icasa is involved in to address the high cost of communication in SA, including data costs. The authority is currently **in consultation with other regulatory bodies such as the National Consumer Commission and the Competition Commission** to find ways in which data costs can be further reduced to benefit consumers. Icasa said in a statement that the purpose of the inquiry is to 'identify relevant wholesale and retail markets or market segments in the telecommunications sector that are generally prone to regulation'.