

The Chief Fire Officers' Association

The professional voice of the UK fire and rescue service

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OFCOM SPECTRUM FRAMEWORK REVIEW

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the consultative document above. Comments are as follows:-

Q6 Any finite resource must be used to the maximum and more importantly in the case of spectrum, given its criticality to communications nationwide. However, liberalisation must be accompanied by responsibility and in this regard, my Association would expect OFCOM to continue to safeguard the public interest.

Additionally, the Association fully supports the notion that trading and liberalisation is totally inappropriate to spectrum utilised by the primary emergency services. Indeed, given that the new Emergency Services radio networks are likely to be part of the critical national infrastructure, you may wish to consider the sufficiency of spectrum allocated to such purposes and the protection against interference afforded to it.