

Response to the Ofcom consultation document "Spectrum Framework Review" Published
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From the document it would appear that Ofcom would like the amateur radio spectrum to move from the command and control portion to either the licence exempt or market forces portion of the spectrum. The most likely option would seem to be licence exempt.

Licence exempt - I am opposed to this option for many reasons, a few are listed below.

- 1 Certain loss of existing bands due to commercial pressure
- 2 With no licence requirement the standard of operation would certainly fall, with resulting arguments on air and inappropriate topics of conversation.
- 3 There would be an increase in the likelihood of interference being caused by incorrect use of equipment by non-technically competent operators to a wide range of services such as TV and radio services of all types.
- 4 There would be no safeguard and possibly recourse to intrusions into the allocated amateur bands.
- 5 Manufacturers may produce "one size fits all" equipment which could lead to illegal out of band operation or illegal use.
- 6 There would be a devaluation of the hobby due to the above and other points, this could lead to decrease in use and eventual decline of the hobby as noted in the UK citizen band use

Market forces

I am opposed to this as I, like many others, realize that the present £ 15.00 licence fee does not realistically cover the cost of administration, the real cost could be so high as to price the average amateur off the bands, leading to higher per capita costs, and the law of diminishing returns could see the end of amateur radio.

Conclusion

I feel that the existing licensing conditions are reasonable and fair and that any change to the status of amateur radio should maintain these standards and remain based around a document such as BR68 and that if Ofcom wish to render amateur radio licence exempt then control and administration of licensing should pass to a third party with conditions similar to those Ofcom impose at present.