

Answer To Question 1

It is important that not all of the available bandwidth be released for use at one time. Considered portions must be made available for as yet unknown future developments. Without this action, no space will be left for innovation

Answer To Question 2

YES. Quarterly or at the least every 6 months. (We accept that a 10-week target has been suggested by Ofcom to respond to questions and suggestions.) Information to be included; Frequency allocations and usage, the correction of previous errors, changes - to proposals, where the original ideas have proved impractical.

Answer To Question 3

YES. The Ofcom Proposals do not consider seriously the case for the Licensed Radio Amateur.

Radio Amateur Licences should be treated with the same importance as Aeronautical and Marine Licences. A maintained licensing system should be retained. A strict minimum technical and practical test should be enforced before Amateurs are allowed to transmit, such as the Foundation course. More advanced exams e.g. Intermediate and Advanced should follow. These exams prove technical competence, and may lead to a career in radio or electronics.

Current Amateur frequency Band Plans should be respected.

Licence issuing Office could be transferred from the SSL to another authorised body or to the RSGB. The Ofcom overview & control MUST be maintained.

Answer To Question 4.

NO. Ofcom are quoting examples which are totally unrepresentative of the high density, close proximity of radio users in the UK & to Europe.

To quote Australia for example is irrelevant, as it has high-density users in coastal towns & cities many hundreds or even thousands of miles apart. For example what happens in Perth may not affect any nearby (by Australian measures) City.

This is totally the opposite to radio planning in the UK. Many major radio users have come into conflict with radio spill-over on Microwave links under both normal & abnormal propagation conditions.

Answer To Question 5.

NO.

Answer To Question 6.

YES. There are many areas where restrictions must apply; Amateur, Aeronautical & Marine Licensed users need allocated frequency space to operate. Amateurs and small commercial organisations must be protected against speculators and large moneyed bodies. Amateur Radio can and does provide emergency communications in many and varied disaster and troubled areas, worldwide. '

Answer To Question 7.

NO. We do not agree with Ofcom's approach at all. We believe at best only a small amount of spectrum space should be licence exempt and even then policed stringent safeguards should be in place to prevent interference.

Answer To Question 8

NO. We feel that Ofcom have it completely wrong by maybe a factor of 10. Ofcom should consider 10 times that which is stated in the Proposal.

Answer To Question 9.

_No Comment Whatever amateurs say will/can be misconstrued!.

Answer To Question 10.

NO. We do NOT agree to proposals, more thought and evaluation required. The spectrum should not be sold off to the highest bidders purely for monetary gain.

Ofcom need more Engineers with Frequency Allocation experience than they seem to have at present.

Answer To Question 11.

NO. Guidelines are needed to prevent unauthorised transmissions causing interference. Annex H proposals would require considerable official monitoring and should not be left to the users to allocate frequencies and usage.

Answer To Question 12

YES. Ofcom appears to intentionally ignore current regulations and intends to withdraw from EU EMC Directives.

We are very happy with EMC Directives issued by the EU. What is Ofcom doing to enforce those regulations when violated?

Having visited Baldock we are aware of Ofcom's aims, i.e. looking for vacant saleable frequencies rather than interference.

Answer To Question 13

Ofcom should not intervene at all. Ofcom does not have or will ever have the expertise to intervene with innovation. Innovation is essential and should be encouraged by, but NOT lead by Ofcom. Radio Amateurs have always been the best leaders in many of today's accepted technologies, and they will continue to be so.

Many of today's engineers began their careers due to an interest in Amateur Radio.

Answer To Question 14.

Ofcom does not always appear to have a consistent approach to harmonisation. Para 4.8 outlines the benefits of European Harmonisation at the same time elsewhere in the document Ofcom categorically state they will ignore the well established National and International agreements on frequency management

Answer To Question 15

As stated in Answer 14, Ofcom does not always appear to have a consistent approach to harmonisation. Para 4.8 outlines the benefits of European Harmonisation at the same time elsewhere in the document Ofcom categorically state they will ignore the well established National and International agreements on frequency management

Answer To Question 16.

YES. Frequency division should be continued as the primary and main method allocating operating licences to users

Answer To Question 17

NO. We are opposed to the use of cognitive radio and similar technologies, which can cause interference to all bands. Command and Control management should be encouraged at every opportunity.

Answer To Question 18.

NO. We do not agree. All actions seem to be based purely on monetary gain and not much else.