

MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE MOBILE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Date: 15 July 2002

Venue: Wyndham House, 189 Marsh Wall, London E14

Present:

Ms H Canter	(RA, Chairman)	Mr O Al-Shaer	(Hutchison 3G)
Mr B Maxwell	(RA)	Ms L Swindley	(T-Mobile)
Mr B Barron	(RA)	Mr D Tripp	(CSS)
Mr L Green	(RA)	Mr A Grilli	(JRC)
Mr B Last	(RA)	Mr A Somerville	(Independent)
Mr P Jarvis	(RA)	Mr D Banner	(WMA)
Ms S Morris	(RA)	Mr J Cawley	(Inquam)
Ms A Henley	(RA)	Mr S Wilson	(O ₂)
Mr S O'Fee	(RA)	Mr N Thwaites	(Vodafone)
Mr R Kent-Smith	(RA)	Mr C Cheeseman	(BT)
Ms H Bergstrom	(RA)	Mr T Baker	(Intellect)
Mr R Emson	(RA Secretary)	Mr T Cull	(Intellect)
Mr G David	(FCS)	Mr J Page	(Intellect)
Mr R Pierce	(FCS)	Mr D Leam	(Social
Mr A Hudson	(FCS)	Market Foundation)	
Mr A Matthews	(FCS)		

Agenda – MSC (02)16

The agenda is annexed as Annex A.

1. Apologies.

1.1 Apologies were received from:

Mrs J Brookes	(FCS)
Mr M Rawlings	(FCS)
Mr B Oliver	(Independent)
Mr I Laybourn	(MRUA)
Mr H MacLeod	(Orange)
Mr G MacDonald	(Intellect)
Mr A Somerville	(Independent)
Mr R Ercole	(OfTel)
Mr J MacKenney	(RA)
Mr R Stewart	(RA)
Mr M Lipscomb	(RA)

1.2 Ms Canter welcomed Mr Cawley (Inquam) who was a new Member of the Committee. She also welcomed Mr Baker (Intellect) who was standing in for Mr MacDonald and Mr Lean ((Social Market Foundation) who was involved with agendas item 5.

2. Minutes of the last meeting – MSC (02)14

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting on 8 May 2002 were agreed and will be published on the Agency website.

3. Matters arising from the last meeting

3.1 Action points from the last meeting:

Paragraph 5.5: Mr Ercole (OfTel) to check on the position under the T Act regarding the withdrawal of interface re-NB3. Ms Canter advised that Mr Ercole had forwarded a copy notice, which had been distributed to Members.

Paragraph 6.1: MSC Secretary to forward hard/CD copies of the Spectrum Strategy document to Members when these are available. The Secretary had forwarded hard copies to Members. The CD copies were expected in late July and would be distributed to Members when received.

Paragraph 6.3: agenda item on the draft Communications Bill to be included at the next MSC meeting. Ms Canter explained that the draft Communications Bill had been included as agenda item 3 in the meeting.

Paragraph 6.3: MSC Members to consider the draft Communications Bill and note any concerns/discussion items that they may have prior to the next meeting. Ms Canter noted that Mr Page had submitted some questions.

3.2 Ms Canter explained that the updated consultation lists – MSC (02)15a and MSC (02)15b had been distributed to Members by the MSC Secretary.

4. Communications Bill

4.1 Mr Green gave a slide presentation titled 'The Draft Communications Bill'. – MSC (02)19. The presentation included:

- OFCOM duties
- Spectrum Trading
- Recognised Spectrum Access
- Role of Ministers
- Communications Bill & OFCOM timeline

4.2 Mr Green advised that the consultation documents on Spectrum Trading and Recognised Spectrum Access were being published that day and copies would be available on the Agency's website at www.radio.gov.uk.

4.3 Mr Green had received Mr Page's questions, however as they were of a detailed nature, he suggested that he would provide answers outside the meeting.

4.4 Members discussed various elements of the draft Communications Bill. External committee members felt concern that OFCOM may become dominated by broadcasting issues and other radio based issues might be given a lesser importance. External Members also noted that a large body of experience and expertise had been built up over the years by Agency staff. They felt that there was a danger that this experience would be lost if staff declined to join OFCOM due to disadvantageous salary or pension provisions.

4.5 Mr Hudson explained that the FCS were experiencing difficulty framing their response as they felt that the draft Communications Bill might be amended, depending on the Government response to the Independent Review. Mr Green advised that FCS should respond to the clauses as they are currently drafted.

4.6 Mr Cull said that he had studied the draft Communications Bill, but could find almost no obligation placed upon OFCOM for technical research to support regulation.

4.7 Mr Green advised Members that the Government welcomes comments on the draft Bill. These should be forwarded by 2 August 2002. (**Secretary's note**: the e-mail address for responses to the draft Communications Bill is - communicationsbill@dti.gsi.gov.uk).

5. Scenario planning and SPEAR presentation

5.1 Ms Morris gave a presentation titled 'Scenario Planning & SPEAR' – MSC (02)18. She explained that SPEAR stood for Scenario Planning, Evaluation And Revision. The presentation included:

- Why use scenarios?
- RA Convergence scenarios
- Futurefocus
- Application of scenarios to date
- SPEAR objectives

5.2 Ms Morris answered questions from Members on her presentation. She advised that the Agency would be undertaking work later in the year to update/re-evaluate the scenarios. Ms Morris asked that any Members interested in contributing to this exercise should contact her or the MSC Secretary.

6. Proposed study on the social value and impact of Private Mobile Radio (PMR)

6.1 Ms Henley introduced her paper – MSC (02)17 on the 'Project proposal to study the social value and impact of Private Mobile Radio (PMR)'. She advised that the Agency wished to study the value of PMR outside the purely economic value. She introduced David Leam (Social Market Foundation) who would be conducting the study.

6.2 Mr Leam explained that the Social Market Foundation were an independent public policy think tank. The study would look at factors other than economic ones, for example, employment and quality of life. The timescale for the study was three months. Mr Leam hoped to be able to contact some MSC Members to gain

information in connection with the Study. However, if any Members had suggestions or ideas he would be happy to receive them. He could be contacted via Ms Henley or the MSC Secretary.

6.3 In response to a question, Mr Jarvis confirmed that the study would include Common Base Stations (CBS). Ms Henley and Mr Leam would complete a note for Members detailing the industry areas that the study will include.

Action: Ms Henley/Mr Leam to complete a note of the industry areas the PMR study will include

7. Sub-group reports

7.1 Services operated without co-ordination

Mr Barron advised that following the outcome of the Agency's consultation published in October 2001 concerning 'Use of Licence Exempt Spectrum for Provision of Public Telecommunications Services', the Minister had agreed to make changes to Exemption Regulations to lift the public service prohibition on the use of 2.4 GHz ISM band frequencies. This change took effect on 8 July 2002. He explained that information regarding the changes to Regulations, including the Statutory Instrument and the technical Interface Requirement IR 2005 could be found on the Agency's website. Also on the website were full details of proceedings of a SMAG event held on 20th June to follow up the announcement on changes to Regulations. This included presentations on the background to the consultation, the results, details of the regulatory changes, OFTEL requirements for public services and details of progress towards 5 GHz implementation. Ms Henley gave an update on the progress with the 5 GHz frequencies. She explained that draft IR 2006 had been sent to the European Commission during the previous week. The three-month period should expire in September 2002 when it was hoped to publish this IR and also the Statutory Instrument giving licence exemption for bands A and B. Sharing studies were currently being conducted for band C and the report was expected to be completed in September.

7.2 Access to assignment details

Mr Kent-Smith said that the consultation document 'Disclosure of Wireless Telegraphy Licence Information Radio Frequency and Assignment Use' had attracted twenty-two responses. There had been qualified support for disclosure subject to safeguards and some commercial concerns. The formal response to the consultation would form part of the Government response to the Independent Review. The Sub-Group on Access to Assignment Data had suggested that a staged approach with a pilot study would be the best way forward. The Agency were currently seeking proposals for candidate bands for the pilot exercise.

7.3 TAG

Mr Jarvis advised that the last TAG meeting had been held on 14 May 2002. Main items were:

- MPT 1362 had been approved by TAG attendees and was now published on the Agency website
- The Group had tried, unsuccessfully, to gain a seat on the motor manufacturers EMC committee

- Digital technologies update
- Details of further meeting of the Digital Project Group
- Report re- 2.4/5 GHz

7.4 450-470 MHz re-alignment project and PMR in the future

Mr Jarvis reported that the re-alignment had been accepted by the Band Alignment Industry Working Group. The Agency were in the process of obtaining a new IT tool which will show the new re-aligned formation. It was hoped that testing would take place in August. In connection with 'PMR in the future' a joint Agency/FCS seminar has been arranged for 20 November 2002.

7.5 CTEC

On behalf of Mr Last, Ms Canter said that the last meeting of the Civil TETRA Experts Committee (CTEC) had taken place on 28 May 2002. The possible provision of spectrum for Private TETRA in the 410-430 MHz band had been discussed and work centres on the clearing of sufficient spectrum in the 415-420 MHz and 425-430 MHz bands. Migration of military services out of 410-430 MHz was also discussed. The next CTEC meeting was scheduled for 30 September 2002.

8. **General updates**

8.1 Independent Review of Radio Spectrum

Mr Green advised that work was continuing on the Government response to the Review and was expected to be completed in the summer of 2002.

8.2 Automotive Directive

Mr Jarvis said that the Dept of Transport, London & the Regions (DTLR) had issued a consultation document on Electromagnetic Compatibility (re Automotive Directive EC/95/54). The consultation period had ended in June 2002. Mr Jarvis understood that DTLR were pressing ahead with the relaxation and he would give a further update at the next MSC meeting.

Action: Mr Jarvis to give update at the next MSC meeting re the Automotive Directive.

8.3 OFCOM

Mr Green advised that the process of appointing the Chair and Board of OFCOM was currently underway.

9. **Any other business**

9.1 Mr Hudson enquired whether Members were aware of any equipment availability for Private TETRA. Mr Cull understood that equipment was available.

9.2 Ms Canter advised that the next MSC meeting will be held on **Thursday, 14 November 2002.**

Summary of action points

6.3 Action: Ms Henley/Mr Leam to complete a note of the industry areas the PMR study will include

8.2 Action: Mr Jarvis to give update at the next MSC meeting re the Automotive Directive.

MOBILE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, 15 JULY 2002, 10:30 am

Wyndham House, 189 Marsh Wall, London E14

AGENDA

10:00 Tea and Coffee available

10:30 Meeting starts

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last meeting – MSC (02)14
3. Communications Bill (Laurence Green)
4. Scenario planning and SPEAR presentation (Sue Morris)
5. Proposed study on the social value and impact of Private Mobile Radio (PMR) MSC (02)17 (Annette Henley/David Leam)
6. Sub-group reports:
 - i) Services operated without co-ordination (including 5 GHz) (Bob Barron).
 - ii) Access to assignment details (Russell Kent-Smith)
 - iii) TAG (Paul Jarvis)
 - iv) 450-470 MHz realignment project and PMR in the future (Paul Jarvis)
 - v) CTEC (Brian Last)
7. General updates:
 - i) Independent Review of Radio Spectrum (Hazel Canter/Laurence Green)
 - ii) Automotive Directive (Hazel Canter/Paul Jarvis)
 - iii) OFCOM (Hazel Canter)
8. Any other business

13:00 Meeting ends followed by buffet lunch.