

MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE MOBILE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Date: 18 February 2003

Venue: Wyndham House, 189 Marsh Wall, London E14

Present:

Ms H Canter	(RA, Chairman)	Ms J Cooper	(Orange)
Mr B Maxwell	(RA)	Ms L Swindley	(T-Mobile)
Mr M Goddard	(RA)	Mr C Cheeseman	(BTexact)
Mr B Last	(RA)	Mr D Tripp	(CSS)
Mr R Stewart	(RA)	Mr A Grilli	(JRC)
Mr B Barron	(RA)	Mr J Cawley	(Inquam)
Mr P Jarvis	(RA)	Mr N Thwaites	(Vodafone)
Mr R Emson	(RA Secretary)	Mr G MacDonald	(Intellect)
Mrs J Brookes	(FCS)	Mr J Page	(Intellect)
Mr G David	(FCS)	Mr T Cull	(Intellect)
Mr R Pierce	(FCS)	Mr S Wilson	(O ₂)
Mr B Oliver	(Independent)	Mr I Laybourn	(MRUA)
Mr D Leam	(Social Market Foundation)	Mrs H Hicks	(OfTel)

Agenda – MSC (03)01

The agenda is annexed as Annex A.

1. Apologies.

1.1 Apologies were received from:

Mr O Al-Shaer	(Hutchison 3G)
Mr R Ercole	(OfTel)
Mr D Banner	(WMA)
Mr M Rawlings	(FCS)
Mr A Henley	(RA)
Mr J Mackenny	(RA)

2. Minutes of the last meeting – MSC (02)27

2.1 Ms Canter advised that Mr Banner had raised a comment regarding the use of auctions from the draft minutes of the last meeting. As he was unable to attend the current meeting, she would contact him to agree some additional text. The minutes were otherwise agreed and will be published in due course on the Agency website.

3. Matters arising from the last meeting

3.1 Action points from the last meeting:

Paragraph 5.2: Mr Chapman to enquire if OFCOM budgeting and financing information was to be made available and advise MSC Members. Ms Canter explained that this information is not yet available. When available, details would be supplied to Members.

Paragraph 5.4: Agency implementation of the Government response to the Independent Review to form an agenda item at the next MSC. Ms Canter advised that the agenda for the current meeting contained an item on this topic.

Paragraph 8.1: Mr Kent-Smith to make copy of OJ notice available to MSC Members. Ms Canter said that web address of the notice inviting tenders for the fees study had been forwarded to Members.

Paragraph 10.1: MSC Secretary to distribute the final version of the PMR social impact study when it becomes available. Ms Canter advised that an electronic copy had been forwarded to Members. Hard copies had now been printed and were distributed at the current meeting.

Paragraph 10.1: Ms Henley to arrange for Mr Leam to be invited to the next MSC meeting. Ms Canter advised that Mr Leam would be presenting an item on the PMS social impact study at the current meeting.

Paragraph 11.2: Ultra Wide Band to be included as an agenda item at the next MSC meeting. Ms Canter explained that this had been included as an agenda item at the current meeting.

3.2 Ms Canter advised that the updated consultation lists – MSC (03)02a and MSC (03)02b had been distributed to Members by the MSC Secretary.

4. WRC 2003

4.1 Mr Goddard gave a slide presentation on the World Radio Conference titled 'WRC 2003' - MSC (03)07. The presentation included, amongst other things:

- The WRC 2003 agenda
- Preparations – national, European and ITU
- Key mobile issues:
 - i) Public protection and disaster relief
 - ii) RLANS at 5 GHz
 - iii) IMT-2000 and beyond
 - iv) Mobile satellite issues
 - v) Mobile satellite 1-3 GHz
 - vi) Aeronautical Mobile Satellite
 - vii) Terrestrial Wireless Interactive Multimedia Services.

4.2 In response to a question, Mr Goddard advised that 4G was not an agenda item for WRC 2003. However, he expected that it would form an item for the

following WRC. Mr Goddard explained that voting at WRC conferences was done on the basis of one country, one vote.

4.3 Mr David felt that the international work done by Mr Goddard and other Agency staff was of vital importance to the UK. He hoped that the OFCOM Board fully appreciated the value of this work and would continue to support it. Mrs Brookes noted that Professor Cave's Independent Review of Radio Spectrum Management had advocated a strong international presence.

4.4 Mr Thwaites expressed concern on the standards relating to IT equipment which he felt could have an impact upon cellular networks. Mr Maxwell advised that he would speak to Mr Kerry on this matter. Ms Canter suggested that this could form an agenda item at the next MSC meeting.

Action: Emission limits for IT equipment to form agenda item at next MSC meeting.

5. Ultra Wide Band

5.1 Mr Barron advised that this item was to be in the form of an update. There were a number of papers now available on the Agency website (www.radio.gov.uk) on the subject of Ultra Wide Band (UWB) which could be easily accessed via a "UWB button" on the homepage. Documents included presentations from the RA/IEE/IEEE Colloquium plus a number of independent studies commissioned under the Agency's Research Programme.

5.2 Mr Barron explained that the Agency had been looking at UWB for two years. The technology considered to date principally originates from the USA and devices had been tested by the Agency staff at Whyteleafe, details of which could be found on the Agency website. The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) were also looking at UWB and had announced their provisional rule making approximately one year ago with the clear intention of reviewing this annually for the foreseeable future.

5.3 CEPT Project Team SE 24 were also investigating UWB and there were two strands to their work:

- i) Generic UWB in the 3.1 –10 GHz bands
- ii) Short range radar at 24 GHz

Generic UWB in the 3.1 –10 GHz bands SE 24 were due to report in mid 2003 and the Agency had made a number of inputs to this work. The Agency had also commissioned a study from Mason Communications to consider specifically the issue of compatibility with 3G services. The Agency and Mason had involved representatives of 3G licensees throughout the study. The final text of this report, which took account of Agency and 3G licensee comments was due to be published on the Agency website shortly. The report concluded that there was a potential for interference from single UWB sources in close physical proximity to a 3G terminal. The issue of aggregate effects was considered but Mason felt that this was not likely to be a significant problem to 3G networks. Mr Barron went on to advise that the CAA had expressed concerns regarding aeronautical services and would be making an input to SE24. Spectrum masks had been developed by SE24 and below 3 GHz these were slightly tighter than those published by the FCC in February 2002 because they exhibited a more realistic roll off. But MSC Members expressed

concern that currently SE24 is assuming a mask which between 3 and 10 GHz is identical to that published by the FCC.

5.4 Short range radar (SRR) at 24 GHz. This relates to vehicle anti-collision radar. There has been considerable lobbying by the automotive industry for Europe to agree an allocation as the devices are already in use in the USA. The Agency and other European administrations believe that there is a potential for interference to a number of users including radio astronomers, fixed services and certain Home Office equipment. Discussions between the proponents of SRR and affected users are ongoing. SE24 is preparing a separate report on the technical issues, expected by mid 2003.

5.5 Mr MacDonald raised concerns regarding input into the UK TG 1/8 briefing group which had been established to coordinate a UK line on UWB. Ms Canter advised that Mr Barron would raise Mr MacDonald's concerns with Mr Goodyear who chairs UK TG1/8.

5.6 Mr Barron distributed for information a copy of a recent news release from the FCC on UWB dated 13 February 2003 which gave information on their first annual review of UWB provisional rule making. Essentially, the FCC were not proposing any major changes to the previously published masks.

6. Implementation of the Government Response to the Independent Review

6.1 Ms Canter presented two papers titled 'Cave Implementation Report' –MSC (03)06 and 'Time Plan' – MSC (03)06a. She confirmed that the implementation represented a very considerable amount of work for the Agency and later for OFCOM. The OFCOM Board regards this implementation as important. The Agency are holding regular internal update meetings and have established a 'traffic light colour' status indicator.

6.2 Mr Cheeseman asked if the costs of £2.5M included research. Mr Maxwell advised that they did not. Mr MacDonald noted that the table on page 5 of document MSC (03)06 included text relating to the implementation of Recognised Spectrum Access (RSA) and enquired whether this was to be definitely implemented. Ms Canter advised that she was obliged to make forward plans. Were a parliamentary decision made not to implement it then it would be removed from the list.

6.3 Ms Swindley enquired when the RSA recommendations were to be published. Ms Canter advised that she would enquire and forward details via the MSC Secretary.

Action: MSC Secretary to forward details of when the RSA recommendations are to be published.

6.4 Mr Tripp felt that it was important that in OFCOM the technical and engineering focus is not lost amongst the various economic issues.

7. PMR Social Impact Study

7.1 Mr Leam presented his completed study titled 'Keeping Britain Working – maintaining the social benefits of Private Mobile Radio within a market-based

system'. He explained that the work included case studies and looked at both the direct and indirect benefits of Private Mobile Radio. Mr Leam thanked the organisations that had assisted him in the preparation of the study and said that he was happy for Members to contact him further if they had any queries.

7.2 Mr Cull suggested that the study should be introduced to the Spectrum Management Advisory Group (SMAG). Ms Canter advised that this would be suggested to the SMAG Secretary.

Action: MSC Secretary to liaise with the SMAG Secretary re the PMR Social Impact Study.

7.3 Mrs Brookes on behalf of the MSC Members present thanked Mr Leam for the interesting study which he had produced and also thanked the Agency for commissioning this work.

8. Subgroup reports

Access to assignment details

8.1 Mr Stewart presented his paper titled 'Industry Access to Assignment Data. Update on Progress' – MSC (03)03. The next meeting of the MSC sub-group on Access to Assignment Data is on 6 March 2003 and it was hoped to go ahead with setting up a pilot study as soon as the feasibility study is completed in early March 2003.

Automotive Directive

8.2 Mr Jarvis advised that progress on this issue had been limited due to the member of staff responsible having been taken seriously ill. In these circumstances he asked if any of the MSC Members present would wish to temporarily take up the UK representation at ETSI on this issue. Mr Oliver advised that he had some experience in this area and would be willing to offer his assistance. Ms Canter, Mr Jarvis and the other MSC Members present thanked Mr Oliver for his offer to help, which was taken up. Ms Canter confirmed that the Agency would support his work.

450-470 realignment project and PMR the future

8.3 Mr Jarvis said that the deadline for the consultation titled '450-470 MHz Band Realignment' had now been extended to 24 March 2003. There would shortly be a review for the development of the band alignment IT tool.

Mr Jarvis also advised that the CTEC (Civil TETRA Experts Committee) and TAG (Technical Advisory Group) are to be merged.

Wireless Advisory Group (WAG)

8.4 Mr Jarvis presented a paper titled 'Update on Wireless Advisory Group Activities 5GHz Band C' – MSC (03)05 which had been prepared by the Chair of that Group, Mr Cooke. Mr Jarvis explained that Bands A and B had already been opened on 12 February on a licence exempt basis. A WAG meeting was taking place that day, the key issues emerging for Band C were:

- i) the authorisation scheme

- ii) the use of DFS and its appropriateness

Mr Jarvis explained that they are looking to gain the permission of Spectrum Policy Committee for the use of this band.

9. General updates

9.1 EU Directives, Comms Bill and OFCOM

Mr Stewart presented his paper titled 'Implementation of EC Directives for WT Act licences' – MSC (03)04. This included:

- i) Implementation
- ii) Key actions required before July
- iii) Other changes
- iv) Changes under the Framework Directive
- v) New Facilities permitted by the Directives

Mr Stewart advised that the vesting date for OFCOM was expected to be October or November 2004.

10. Any other business

10.1 Mrs Brookes enquired whether the MSC would continue under OFCOM. Ms Canter said that at present she was unable to give a definite answer.

10.2 Mr Thwaites enquired whether there had been any changes in the Agency's policy towards the implementation of CDMA 2000 networks. Ms Canter advised that the Agency's position had not changed.

10.3 Ms Canter confirmed that the date of the next MSC meeting was on:

Thursday, 15 May 2003.

Summary of action points:

- 3.1 Action carried forward from previous meeting: Mr Chapman to enquire if OFCOM budgeting and financing information was to be made available and advise MSC Members.**
- 4.4 Action: Emission limits for IT equipment to form agenda item at the next MSC meeting.**
- 6.2 Action: MSC Secretary to forward details of when the RSA recommendations are to be published.**
- 7.2 Action: MSC Secretary to liaise with the SMAG Secretary re the PMR Social Impact Study.**

MOBILE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2003, 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)27
3. WRC 2003 (Mike Goddard)
4. Ultra Wide Band (Bob Barron)
5. Implementation of the Government Response to the Independent Review
- MSC (03)06 and 06a (Hazel Canter)
6. PMR Social Impact Study (Paul Jarvis/David Leam)
7. Sub-group reports:
 - i) Access to assignment details - MSC (03)03 (Roger Stewart)
 - ii) The Automotive Directive (Paul Jarvis)
 - iii) 450-470 MHz realignment project and PMR the future (Paul Jarvis)
 - iv) WAG – MSC (03)05 (Paul Jarvis)
8. General updates:
 - i) EU Directives, Comms Bill and OFCOM (MSC (03)04
(Roger Stewart/Hazel Canter)
9. Any other business

13:00 Meeting ends followed by buffet lunch.