

BRITISH HELICOPTER ADVISORY BOARD

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Mr Daniel Storey
C/o Radiocommunications Agency
Wyndham House
189 Marsh Wall
London E14 9SX

Dear Mr Storey

The Radio Spectrum Management Review

BHAB is a non-profit making organisation whose main objective is to promote the use of helicopters throughout the United Kingdom and to bring to the attention of potential users the advantages of owning or chartering a helicopter. It is also concerned that helicopter operations are conducted safely and responsibly and that proper attention is paid to environmental issues. These objectives are pursued by liaison with government departments, local authorities, the Civil Aviation Authority, public services, private industry and through an exchange of information with other helicopter organisations world-wide. BHAB encourages moves towards European harmonisation through its membership of the European Helicopter Association.

Reliable and easily accessible radio communication is essential for the safe conduct of helicopter operations in the United Kingdom. Most of these operations directly support the economic or social well-being of the nation at large e.g.

- The offshore energy industry (mainly but not exclusively in the North Sea)
- Police aviation
- Air ambulance operations
- Load-lifting in support of many industries
- Pipeline and powerline inspections and maintenance
- Public transport - e.g. Penzance/Scilly Isles
- Aerial filming and surveys
- Media support and electronic newsgathering
- Agricultural and forestry pest control

Sufficient frequencies, which are compatible with current and projected aviation radio and navigation equipment, must be safeguarded in order to ensure continued safe operation of aircraft. No additional economic burden should be placed on the aviation sector for the use of these frequencies, due to their critical importance for safety.

J W Friedberger
Chief Executive