

Title:

Dr

Forename:

Matthew

Surname:

Nottingham

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:

No

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

I am an active radio amateur, a user of these bands and a member of AMSAT-UK.

Question 1: Do you agree that it is likely that the benefits to UK consumers and citizens will be greater from the MoD's release of spectrum in the 2.3 GHz and 3.4 GHz release bands than from retaining the current amateur use?:

No - there will be a short term gain for some consumers but it is not fixing the real problem that there is not enough RF spectrum space available for current modulation schemes and the real solution requires investment to create those schemes. Taking the spectrum away from the amateur radio users will have long term consequences for the education & technical development of future generations for the price of a short term fix.

Question 2: Are there current uses in the release bands other than those detailed in RSGB's band plan and discussed in Section 3 of this consultation?:

No.

Question 3: Are there further consequences of removing the release bands from amateur licences that have not been considered in our analysis?:

No

Question 4: There is an option (although not preferred) to remove access to the adjacent bands, as well as to the release bands. What are the consequences of removing access to the adjacent bands from amateur licences?:

This would have considerable financial impact on many people - upwards of several thousand pounds each.

The loss of this part of the RF spectrum would also be of significant loss experimentation and self generated research as there are many interesting phenomenology at these frequencies which are not as accessible at other frequencies.

Question 5: Are there current uses in the adjacent bands other than those detailed in the RSGB's band plan and discussed in Section 3?:

As mentioned in question 1, the use of amateur radio as a training, research & education environment should not be underestimated. Due to the low power levels, much of the research carried out is looking at low signal-to-noise comms - which obviously have commercial benefit.

Question 6: Are there additional mitigation measures which would provide demonstrable proof that amateurs would not cause interference into LTE in the release bands following the release?:

Proper band planning is essential.

Question 7: Do you agree with the proposed process for varying licences following cases of reported interference and our proposal to vary licences should dealing with the number of reported cases become too onerous?:

It is my understanding that this has always been a part of my amateur radio license.

Question 8: Do you agree with our preferred option?:

It would not be my 1st choice of options, but it would be acceptable.

Question 9: Are there additional changes to the Amateur Radio Licence which would assist amateur in lowering the risk of causing harmful interference to new uses?:

This is already contained in my license.