

3 Consultation question

A3.1

This annex provides a complete list of the questions we are asking in the sections of this document.

Question 1:

Do you have any comments on our proposal to allow audio PMSE services to operate in the guard band from 694 to 703 MHz, and that this would be a benefit to PMSE users?

Answer:

Although we welcome Ofcom's proposal to let PMSE have continued access to this 9MHz of spectrum, we have very strong reservations about why, at this stage of discussions about future use of spectrum for PMSE, the proposal has been made.

In purely monetary terms it could be suggested that the offer, if agreed, will result in the negation of proposed recompense scheme for replacing current wireless equipment in the 700MHz band (PMSE clearing the 700MHz band - Support for PMSE equipment owners' consultation).

Which in turn will lead to extraordinary expense to all users of this equipment; not just the large companies but to the individuals and manufacturers that rely on this equipment for employment. And not the equipment value per se but to overall 'PMSE production' costs.

Ofcom's statement that "PMSE economic costs would not increase and could marginally decrease..." (paragraph 3.8 of this consultation) is therefore blatantly untrue.