

Q5.

Many of those 'amateurs' active using narrowband techniques at 2.3 and 3.4GHz are actually professional engineers involved in non-profit, self-directed research and continuing education via amateur radio. Often these projects explore marginal propagation mechanisms, which are not seen as immediately useful commercially. It is desirable from a National viewpoint to have a body of informed individuals with practical experience of these phenomena.

Within Europe, all 2.3GHz narrowband work is contained within the segment 2319 - 2322MHz, and it is highly desirable that these frequencies are retained.

The amateur 3.4GHz band is located in a part of the spectrum where a number of marginal propagation mechanisms prevalent at lower frequencies exist alongside others more commonly found in the upper part of the microwave spectrum. This makes the band of considerable interest for experimental activities.

Q6 .

Proper band planning by the RSGB and special interest groups, such as UKuG and BATC, in conjunction with the Primary User and other interested parties has to be at the heart of mitigation.

There are unlikely to be insuperable technical problems: it may require some further development.,

With regard to the receiver performance of LTE base stations, providing extra low-loss bandstop filtering to reject large signals in specific areas of the adjacent band is not particularly difficult.

Amateurs have the equipment and expertise to design, make and test suitable filters.

Q7.

There has long been a mechanism within amateur radio licensing by which the licence schedule has been individually modified in order to solve specific interference problems. Given that, it would be difficult to justify a global modification to licences as necessary to solve specific interference problems.

It is likely that amateur radio organisations, such as the UK Microwave Group (UKuG) and the British Amateur

Television Club (BATC) under the auspices of the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) could provide first-line

investigation of reported interference to Primary Users. As noted in a reply to previous question, many amateurs operating at these frequencies are, in reality, very experienced professionals. Myself included.

Q8.

Ofcom's preferred option is, if not entirely desirable from the amateur point of view, acceptable. Continued amateur access to this frequency range is highly desirable from considerations of self-education and experimentation.

Q9.

The Amateur Radio Licence already contains clauses requiring amateurs not to cause undue interference to other services. It is difficult to see any variation to the current Licence which would reduce the risk of causing harmful interference.

