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Frequencies for Emergency services in the UK



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Introduction

Emergency services

The Emergency Services rely on radio technologies to provide the essential communications capabilities required to keep this country and its citizens safe and to provide rescue services.

The Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 and the Communications Act 2003 have given Ofcom the responsibility for managing UK spectrum and responsibility for licensing frequencies for the Emergency Services. Ofcom also administers the use of these in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In Scotland, this function is carried out by the Scottish Government.

Policy decisions concerning Emergency Service communications is the responsibility of Government. The Public Safety Spectrum Policy Group (PSSPG) provides advice to the UK Spectrum Strategy Committee (UKSSC) and Ofcom on the broad-spectrum requirements to meet the essential needs of UK emergency service and public safety users now and in the future, and the means by which those requirements might be met.

PSSPG comprises of representatives from Ofcom, government departments and devolved administrations. Other relevant organisations are invited to attend as required. Further details can be found at <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/manage-your-licence/radiocommunication-licences/emergency-services>.

The table below provides an overview of the use of frequencies by the Emergency Services. The use of certain frequency assignments may need to be coordinated with the Ministry of Defence (exception being for mobiles/ temporary static deployments of less than 8 weeks' duration with a radiated power of 3 dBW or less).

Frequency	Comments
70.50 - 71.50 MHz	Minimal number of channels retained for use in Scotland only.
80.0 - 81.5 MHz	Minimal number of channels retained for use in Scotland only.
86.30625 - 86.31875 MHz	Scotland only
146 - 148 MHz	Minimal number of channels retained for use UK wide.
152.0 - 153.01250 MHz	Minimal number of channels retained for use in England, Wales and Scotland.
153.0375 - 153.0625 MHz	England, Wales and Scotland only.
154 - 156 MHz	Minimal number of channels retained for use in England, Wales and Scotland.
155.34375 - 155.35625 MHz	Scotland only.
168.3125 - 168.8375 MHz	Minimal number of channels retained for use in England, Wales and Scotland.
173.9875 - 174.0 MHz	England, Wales and Scotland only.

Frequency	Comments
380 - 385 MHz	
390 - 395 MHz	
410 - 412 MHz	
420 - 422 MHz	
450 - 453 MHz	
455.875 - 456.0 MHz	
457.0 - 457.25 MHz	
457.475 - 457.5 MHz	
459.49375 - 459.50625 MHz	
459.50625 - 459.51875 MHz	
459.53125 - 459.54375 MHz	
460.5 - 460.75 MHz	
462.5 - 462.75 MHz	
464.0 - 466.0625 MHz	
466.0875 - 467.25 MHz	
469.875 - 470.0 MHz	
862 - 863 MHz	
1677 - 1685 MHz	
1790 - 1798 MHz	England and Wales only.
2302 -2310 MHz	
2310 - 2320 MHz	For wideband mobile emergency services (subject to MoD agreement). England and Wales only
2320 - 2340 MHz	For wideband mobile emergency services (subject to MoD agreement).
3100 - 3400 MHz	
4800 – 4900 MHz	Within M25 orbital road only.
4950 – 4990 MHz	England and Wales only.

Frequency	Comments
8400 - 8460 MHz	England and Wales only.
10.25 - 10.27 GHz	For mobile emergency services (subject to MoD agreement).
10.36 - 10.4 GHz	For mobile emergency services (subject to MoD agreement).
10.4 - 10.46 GHz	For mobile emergency services (within the M25 orbital road only).
24.05 - 24.15 GHz	
51.2 - 51.4 GHz	For mobile emergency services in England and Wales only.