

Samsung Electronics UK

Question 1:What are your views on our proposal to introduce the option of holding back some of the spectrum from the auction:

Samsung Electronics considers that the spectrum resources in both the 2300MHz and 3400MHz bands are important for increasing the capabilities of LTE networks. In particular the 2300MHz band is already an important band addressed by 3GPP standardisation for Carrier Aggregation. Devices and handsets are appearing on the market now that can support this band to increase downlink throughput and support higher rate applications (LTE Cat 6).

The 3400MHz band has a harmonised framework in place to support mobile broadband and there is particular interest in the deployment of small cells to also increase the capacity of existing networks. The UK is in a unique position with this band with limited legacy licensing for other radio communication services to block the use for mobile broadband and could therefore help drive the take up in other countries around Europe.

Therefore Samsung Electronics, prefers to see all the available spectrum resources entered into the award.

However if Ofcom's assessment suggests it is necessary, Samsung Electronics proposes that any reduction in the available award spectrum comes from the 3400MHz band so as not to dilute the 2300MHz band opportunity.

Question 2:Do you have any views on an appropriate amount of spectrum to hold back to allow sufficient flexibility to address potential competition concerns? Please explain your reasoning:

If Ofcom's assessment suggests it is necessary, Samsung Electronics has a preference for spectrum to be held back from the 3400MHz band only. In addition Samsung proposes that wider bandwidth operation should be encouraged for small cells in the 3400MHz band and that at least 100 MHz should remain on offer.