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# **Notice: Interim coordination procedure for 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licences**

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# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The notice sets out the interim co-ordination procedure to be followed by 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licensees prior to transmitting from base stations in the frequency band 3.6-3.8 GHz. Co-ordination will be effected by means of a 'co-ordination tool' administered by Ofcom.
- 1.2 As of the date of issue of the 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licences, there are a number of incumbent Fixed Link (FL) licences in the frequency band 3.6-3.8 GHz. In December 2017, Ofcom issued notices to revoke all FL licences in the band with an effective date of 23 December 2022. At the same time Ofcom varied PES licences and grants of RSA, such that we will no longer take satellite earth stations with a receiver component in the band into account for frequency management purposes. These variations are currently in effect.
- 1.3 During the interim period Ofcom will ensure the protection of the incumbent FL licensees by means of the procedure set out in this notice.
- 1.4 This notice will remain in place until the 23 December 2022 (or sooner if the remaining FL licensees vacate the band before this date).

## 2. Procedure

- 2.1 When planning its network deployments, a 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licensee must check whether any of its base stations are located within the co-ordination areas defined in Annex A1 of this notice.
- 2.2 For any base station within a co-ordination area, the 3.6-3.8 GHz licensee must submit the technical details, as defined in Annex A2 of this notice, prior to transmitting on any frequency within the 3.6-3.8 GHz band.
- 2.3 As it is more efficient for Ofcom to process larger batch sizes, licensees are encouraged to submit batches that are as large as possible. Submitting multiple small batches will result in slower processing through the co-ordination tool and may lead to delays in Ofcom providing results.
- 2.4 Upon receipt of a batch of technical details Ofcom will determine, using the co-ordination tool, whether any base station in the batch is likely to cause interference to a FL.
- 2.5 In the case that interference is predicted, Ofcom will inform the 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licensee of all base stations that have failed co-ordination, we will provide information indicating which FL the base stations have failed against and the margin of each failure. Licensees may not transmit from base stations that have failed co-ordination on any frequency within the 3.6-3.8 GHz band prior to a specified date<sup>1</sup>. Licensees may transmit from bases stations that have passed co-ordination provided they stay within the submitted technical details.
- 2.6 At their choice, 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licensees may resubmit, with amended technical details, any base stations that have failed co-ordination. If they then pass co-ordination, the 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licensee may transmit from these base stations provided they stay within the re-submitted technical details.
- 2.7 For the avoidance of doubt, Ofcom is not able to provide further information, guidance or advice about base stations that have failed co-ordination; nor is Ofcom able to facilitate further/detailed discussion between 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum access licensees and FL licensees.

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<sup>1</sup> For interference into FL, the date will be 23 December 2022 (sooner if FL licensees agree to vacate earlier).

## A1. Co-ordination areas

**Table A1.1: Fixed Links locations:**

NGR location (Link end 1)	NGR location (Link end 2)	End date
NG 75520 89850	NB 30500 30290	23/12/2022
HY 78450 55800	HU 38740 18780	23/12/2022
HY 62760 37330	HZ 21290 73180	23/12/2022
HY 62760 37330	HY 41270 11600	23/12/2022
HY 78450 55800	HY 36580 21020	23/12/2022
ND 17770 65820	HY 37700 10190	23/12/2022
SU 65650 05400	SZ 44730 86540	23/12/2022
HY 62760 37330	HZ 21290 73180	23/12/2022
HY 78450 55800	HU 38740 18780	23/12/2022
HY 62760 37330	HY 41270 11600	23/12/2022
NG 75520 89850	NB 30500 30290	23/12/2022
NG 75520 89850	NG 78600 42390	23/12/2022
HU 50300 38700	HZ 21290 73180	23/12/2022
NG 75520 89850	NB 30500 30290	23/12/2022
HY 78450 55800	HY 36580 21020	23/12/2022
ND 17770 65820	HY 37700 10190	23/12/2022

## A2. Technical details

Below we define the details and format of the files containing the station information necessary to carry out the coordination.

Files should be submitted in a specific format (a .xlsb Excel binary file), with a set of columns as follows:

Index Column	Name	Comments
1	Assignment ID	
2	Link ID	
3	Type	
4	Name of Station	Alphanumerical, as defined by stakeholder
5	Service	
6	Sub-Service	
7	Class of Station	
8	Co-ordinate Reference	NGR
9	Station Location X	6-digit NGR location
10	Station Location Y	
11	Network ID	
12	Antenna Location	OUTDOOR/INDOOR
13	Antenna Height (m) - AGL	Antenna above ground level value (m)
14	HCM V Code	
15	HCM H Code	
16	Antenna Gain	Antenna boresight gain (dB)
17	Antenna Azimuth (degrees)	Antenna azimuth (degree)
18	Antenna Elevation	Antenna elevation (degree). Negative values refer to down-tilt angles.
19	Tx Frequency (MHz)	Transmission frequency (MHz)
20	Rx Frequency (MHz)	Reception frequency (MHz)
21	Bandwidth (MHz)	Bandwidth (MHz)
22	Channel Spacing (MHz)	Channel Spacing (MHz)
23	Power Reference	
24	Radiated Power (dBW)	E.I.R.P (dBW)
25	Antenna Polarisation	Horizontal, Vertical or Cross-Polar
26	Coverage Radius (km)	
27	Validity Start Date	
28	Validity End Date	
29	MPL (dBm)	
30	T/I (dB)	
31	Result	
32	Result Margin (dB)	

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33	Description of Result	
34	Channel Priority	
35	Location (Indoor,Outdoor)	
36	Airborne (for information)	
37	Antenna Type	Reference given by Ofcom
38	Antenna Beamwidth (Degrees)	
39	Tx Station Activity Factor	
40	Tuning Range Start (MHz)	
41	Tuning Range End (MHz)	
42	Tuning Range Step (kHz)	
43	Tuning Range Duplex Space (kHz)	
44	Spec Efficiency Class	Reference given by Ofcom
45	Antenna Ident	Reference given by Ofcom