

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Nicholas

Surname:

Bown

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:

No

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

Question 1: Do you agree that it is likely that the benefits to UK consumers and citizens will be greater from the MoD's release of spectrum in the 2.3 GHz and 3.4 GHz release bands than from retaining the current amateur use?:

No, I don't. A huge amount of research is carried out by amateurs and educational establishments into propagation and space communications and losing this ability will hinder UK research and prevent further advances in the field for a short term "gain".

Question 2: Are there current uses in the release bands other than those detailed in RSGB's band plan and discussed in Section 3 of this consultation?:

No

Question 3: Are there further consequences of removing the release bands from amateur licences that have not been considered in our analysis?:

Not that I am aware of

Question 4: There is an option (although not preferred) to remove access to the adjacent bands, as well as to the release bands. What are the consequences of removing access to the adjacent bands from amateur licences?:

There will be a considerable cost to amateurs if access to these bands are removed.

Question 5: Are there current uses in the adjacent bands other than those detailed in the RSGB's band plan and discussed in Section 3?:

Again, a lot of these bands are being used for not-for-profit research by amateurs. Although this research is not immediately commercially valuable, it could reap huge rewards in radar advances and communications by bouncing communications off flying/orbital objects.

Question 6: Are there additional mitigation measures which would provide demonstrable proof that amateurs would not cause interference into LTE in the release bands following the release?:

The RSBG do sterling work in making sure that amateurs do not cause interference. Knowledge of basic filtering is part of the amateur radio licensing syllabus and so preventing such interference is well within most amateurs grasp.

Question 7: Do you agree with the proposed process for varying licences following cases of reported interference and our proposal to vary licences should dealing with the number of reported cases become too onerous?:

The amateur organisations are well placed to assist with interference cases already so adding a global license variation seems rather heavy handed.

Question 8: Do you agree with our preferred option?:

Its acceptable but further consideration to amateurs access would be very highly desirable.

Question 9: Are there additional changes to the Amateur Radio Licence which would assist amateur in lowering the risk of causing harmful interference to new uses?:

No, the current system works well and I can't see how changing the current system would protect new users to any greater degree.