

Statement of interests and background.

I have held a full Amateur Radio Licence **G4KLB** since 1980.

Professionally, I have worked as an TV engineer, ship to shore radio and radar technician.

I am a Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, a member of the Radio Society of Great Britain, and on the committee of two ATV repeaters.

My amateur radio interest also includes the design and construction of system components suitable for incorporation into amateur microwave equipment. The use of digital compression techniques to further reduce the bandwidth of DATV transmitters.

Replies to Consultation Questions

Q1. I expect a larger number of the population would benefit from use of the frequencies.

Q2. None that I am aware of.

Q3. No.

Q4. The most significant consequence of the proposed changes to these allocations would be the loss of a part of the UHF/microwave spectrum which provides relatively straightforward access to radio amateurs who wish, for interest, or self-education, to explore the characteristics of this area of the spectrum. Complete removal of access to the 2.3 – 3.4GHz spectrum would also lead to significant personal financial loss, possibly individually in the region of £2k, to the several hundred individuals who have invested in equipment for these allocations. It is very probable that much of the equipment used could not be readily adapted for use at other than very similar frequencies.

Q5. Not that I am aware of.

Q6. Amateurs do already have the equipment and expertise to design, make and test suitable filters. As well as a choice of commercially available ones.

Q7.! Before any blanket changes are made to amateur use of the shared bands is made, it is hoped that Ofcom will enter in to discussions with the RSGB, BATC and UK microwave group to try and resolve the situation.

Q8.! The preferred option will cause severe disruption to Amateur Television operation in both 2.3 and 3.4 GHz bands. Whilst it is accepted that ATV repeater outputs will transition to digital operation, it is absolutely vital that we continue to have access to at least 1 analogue ATV channel at 2.3 GHz for simplex and repeater inputs. Without this, analogue ATV operation will no longer be possible on any band between 1.2 GHz and 5.6 GHz and this will have a major impact on the hobby and a major financial impact on the individuals who have equipment for ATV operation on 2.3 and 3.4 GHz. As long as ATV can continue to be accommodated within the 2.3 GHz band, Ofcom's preferred option is, if not entirely desirable from the amateur point of view, acceptable.

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.