

Your response

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Question 1: Do you have any views on the options for managing the 2 GHz MSS band after 13 May 2027? Are there any options that Ofcom has overlooked?	Confidential? – N We support Ofcom's proposal to maintain existing MSS services through a transitional authorisation period. We agree that an immediate long-term allocation decision would be premature at this stage. In particular, we consider that the transitional period should allow Ofcom to assess and take into account the final outcome of the European Union's ongoing process for the 2 GHz MSS band before adopting a long-term UK framework. Given the international nature of MSS services and the potential benefits of harmonisation in terms of economies of scale, interoperability, investment certainty and reduced coordination complexity, any future UK approach should seek, to the greatest extent practicable, to remain aligned with the framework ultimately adopted in the European Union.
Question 2: Do you agree with our proposal for a short-term transition period, which authorises Viasat and EchoStar? Please set out your reasoning.	Confidential? – N Yes. We agree that a short-term transition period is the most appropriate approach under current circumstances. It ensures continuity of existing services, avoids disruption to users and provides Ofcom with additional time to assess evolving market, regulatory and technological developments before taking a long-term decision. We also agree that any transitional arrangement should be without prejudice to future long-term decisions and should not create expectations regarding future spectrum rights.
Proposal for interim transition period	
Question 3: Do you agree with our preferred option for the duration of the proposed interim authorisation to be a three-year fixed period? Please set out your reasoning.	Confidential? – N As a preferred option, Ofcom could consider aligning the duration of the interim authorisation with any equivalent transitional arrangements adopted in the EU. This could support greater regulatory harmonisation between the UK and the EU and provide an opportunity to review the

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	authorisation framework in light of evolving international and regional developments. If Ofcom were to adopt a different timeframe, we would support Ofcom's preferred option of a fixed three-year interim authorisation period. This duration appears to provide an appropriate balance between regulatory certainty and flexibility, allowing time for greater clarity to emerge regarding the future European framework, market developments and the outcomes of WRC-27, while avoiding unnecessarily prolonged transitional arrangements.
Question 4: Do you agree that our proposed approach to authorise continued use of the spectrum during the interim authorisation period through a CGC licence, licence exemption, and Aircraft Radio licence? If not, please set out your reasoning and alternative suggestions.	
Question 5: Do you have any comments on the alternative approach we have considered, of licensing the satellite operators to use 2 GHz MSS during the interim authorisation period? If you have a preference for this approach, please set out your reasoning.	
Question 6: What are your views on the approach Ofcom should take to fees for the interim authorisation period? Please set out your reasoning and provide evidence where appropriate.	
Question 7: Do you agree with our proposals to enable additional users to access the spectrum during the interim period? If yes, do you have a preference for how we should enable	Confidential? – N We support the possibility of allowing additional access during the transitional period. In this sense, the terms of any interim authorisations granted to incumbent operators should clearly preserve

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other users during the short-term extension period? Please set out your reasoning.	the possibility for new entrants to access the spectrum during the transition period. This may require specific arrangements by specifying, where appropriate, portions of the authorised spectrum resource, geographic coverage, operational parameters, time periods, or other relevant conditions that remain available for potential additional users. Any additional access should not create de facto permanent rights and should not prejudice future authorisation decisions.
Question 8: Do you have any other views on the details of our proposal to authorise Viasat and EchoStar during the interim period?	See response to question 7 above. The licences applicable during the transitional period should contain the necessary provisions to support a smooth transition to the long-term authorisation framework.
Proposals for deciding on our longer-term approach to 2GHz MSS	
Question 9: Do you have any comments on the technical and operational implications of the four approaches to long term authorisation we have set out?	Confidential? – N We recognise the merits of all four options identified by Ofcom. Option A would be closely aligned with the ITU regulatory framework but may not fully capture the benefits of regional harmonisation. Option B would provide continuity and flexibility through market mechanisms, although outcomes may diverge from developments elsewhere in Europe. Option C would give Ofcom greater national control but may increase the risk of regulatory fragmentation, reduced economies of scale and greater coordination complexity. In our view, Option D offers the most balanced approach. Given the international nature of MSS services, alignment with the future European framework would help support economies of scale, service interoperability, investment certainty and reduced cross-border coordination challenges. We therefore consider that alignment with the European Union is likely to deliver the greatest overall benefits in the long term.

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Question 10: Which would you consider is the optimal approach to take for long-term authorisation? Are there any alternative approaches we have not considered? If so, please outline them.	Confidential? – N We consider that the approach based on alignment with the future European framework is likely to deliver the greatest overall benefits. As recognised by Ofcom, harmonisation can generate economies of scale, support the development of pan-European services, facilitate equipment availability and reduce operational complexity and coordination burdens. Alignment may also help minimise cross-border interference risks and support the creation of a broader MSS ecosystem. We therefore support Ofcom continuing to monitor developments within the European Union and taking a final long-term decision once the European authorisation framework has been finalised.
Question 11: Do you have any further comments on factors we should consider when determining our approach to the longer-term UK authorisation of the 2 GHz MSS band?	Confidential? – N Ofcom could take into account developments at the European level, including regarding the portion of the band that the European Union is considering for secure governmental communications. Given the potential strategic importance of these services, Ofcom may wish to assess whether a similar approach could be appropriate in the UK and whether elements of the future UK authorisation framework could be aligned, where feasible, with the evolving European arrangements.
Question 12: Do you have any comments on the Impact Assessments?	