

Your response

Question	Your response
<p>Question 1: Do you have any comments on Ofcom's proposed Work Plan for 2026/27?</p>	<p>With reference to Ofcom's priority area of "Enabling wireless in the UK economy" we believe that the time is ripe to begin a consideration of expanding the UK licence exemption for mobile signal repeaters for bands above 3.4 GHz.</p> <p>Ofcom have historically taken a progressive view on enabling consumers and enterprises to deploy mobile signal repeaters. The original UK Interface Requirement 2102 has evolved several times since its original incarnation in 2018, to encompass technology changes and bring in additional frequency bands.</p> <p>The 3GPP specifications from release 17 onwards include a 5G/NR repeater specification/minimum requirements for mobile repeaters, including in Time Division Duplex (TDD) bands such as band n78 (specifically 3GPP TS 38.106).</p> <p>The approach for repeater licence exemption in IR2102 has been to take a baseline of international standards, then overlay additional requirements such as maximum noise figure, gain limitation according to base station coupling loss minus 30dB, etc. which make mobile repeaters safely deployable at scale within the mobile networks on a licence exempt basis.</p> <p>Since there is now a quotable international standard for high bandwidth TDD 5G mobile repeaters, Ofcom should consider extending the licence exemption into relevant bands for TDD-based 5G service, such as band n78 (3.4 – 3.8 GHz).</p> <p>Above 3GHz, building penetration of mobile signals is particularly challenging, and mobile repeaters are well suited to solving the poor indoor coverage that can result.</p> <p>Such a move will show Ofcom as a regulatory innovator in this area. We have on multiple occasions had IR2102 quoted by various national regulators when developing their own regulations and expanding it into 5G TDD bands would again illustrate Ofcom's forward thinking.</p>

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