

28 GHz project team  
Email: [28GHz@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:28GHz@ofcom.org.uk)

20 August 2024

By email

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Information regarding current and planned use of land-based user terminals in Ka band (27.5 – 30 GHz)**

Thank you for your response to our March 2024 Statement and consultation: Increasing use of the 27.5 – 30 GHz band<sup>1</sup>. Your response raises important issues which are we considering carefully.

I should be grateful if you were able to provide us with additional information to inform our consideration of future use of unassigned spectrum in Ka band, as discussed in section 5 of our document.

We have included questions on page 2 of this letter which set out the additional information we are requesting.

We recognise that you may consider the answers to some of these questions to be commercially sensitive. Therefore, please make clear which parts of your response you consider to be confidential. In line with our usual approach we expect to publish responses or parts of responses that are non-confidential. Our policy on confidentiality is set out in paragraphs A1.11-A1.15 of the March 2024 Statement and consultation.

I would be grateful if you could provide responses to our questions **by Tuesday 17 September**.

If you have any queries about this information request, please contact the team at [28GHz@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:28GHz@ofcom.org.uk).

Yours faithfully,

28 GHz project team

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/spectrum/space-and-satellites/increasing-use-of-the-27-5-to-30-ghz-band/>.

## Questions

---

1. For currently operational satellites:
  - a) Have you deployed land-based user terminals in the Ka band?
  - b) If yes, how many terminals have you deployed to date?
  - c) What use case(s) are these terminals used for?
  - d) What is/are the specific frequency range(s) within the Ka band (17.7-20.2 GHz downlink and 27.5-30GHz uplink) that your land-based user terminals use (uplink and downlink) to connect to your satellites?
  
2. For future satellite services you are planning to deploy in the next 5-10 years:
  - a) Are you planning to deploy user terminals in the Ka band?
  - b) If yes, what use case(s) will these terminals be used for?
  - c) What is/are specific frequency range(s) that the land-based user terminals will use (uplink and downlink) to connect to your satellites?
  - d) When are you planning to make these services commercially available in the UK?
  
3. For current and future satellite services: What are your preferred channel sizes for Ka band land-based user terminals? Do you have flexibility to use different channel sizes? If so, please provide details.
  
4. Responses to our [March consultation "increasing use of 27.5-30GHz"](#) suggest that there is demand for land-based user terminals in the UK to access 2 x 224 MHz (27.8285 – 28.0525 GHz and 28.8365 – 29.0605 GHz) rather than 1 x 112 MHz (28.8365 – 28.9485 GHz). Do you have any information on how the availability of 2 x 224 MHz for land-based user terminals would impact the number of consumers and customers you could connect, product speed, or the quality of service you could provide via these land terminals (compared to just having 1 x 112 MHz available)?