

Your response

Introduction

This response reflects my usage of UK PMSE frequencies over the past 25 years.

Although now retired and working with amateur theatre groups the access to clean and usable frequencies for radio microphones is essential. Nowadays the reliance on clear audio at theatre productions is important. As a voluntary group, one of many in the country, access to UHF spectrum that does not change is vital. The group that I support has just raised enough funds to purchase our own set of radio microphones on ch 38. If frequency this allocation was to change we would be unable to purchase new equipment, and it would have been a complete waste of our money and we would be back to having to hire radio microphones which is very expensive for a voluntary group.

This introduction is not my full response and I have answered the relevant questions below.

Question	Your response
<p>Section 3 –Spectrum use by the PMSE sector in the UK</p> <p>Question 1: What are your views on how our processes work - for example our online booking system, turn-around times, and event coordination. Do you think the current approach works well? How could we improve it?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Never used online services but the license application was reasonably easy.</p>
<p>Section 4 – PMSE historic trends</p> <p>Question 2: Do you have any comments on how we have analysed and characterised wireless microphone and IEM demand, or suggestions for alternative ways of characterising this demand?</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Question 3: Do you have any comments on how we have analysed and characterised wireless video demand, or suggestions for alternative ways of characterising wireless video demand?</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Question	Your response
<p>Section 5 – Future trends and opportunities</p> <p>Wireless audio</p> <p>Drivers of demand</p> <p>Question 4: What factors have driven changes in the demand for audio PMSE applications, specifically for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the increased use of coordinated wireless microphones and IEMs, particularly the peak number of simultaneous assignments used at the largest events? b) the slight decline in the number of national wireless microphone licences (UHF channel 38 and VHF)? Has the extent of use of these licences changed, and if so why? c) the declines in talkback, fixed audio links and ADS licences? 	<p>Confidential N</p> <p>Future demands are a clear education of other voluntary groups to the need for licence controlled frequencies. Most amateur groups are unaware of OFCOM and seem not to want to make sure the frequencies are kept clean.</p>
<p>Question 5: What factors could drive further changes in the demand for audio PMSE applications in the future, and what will this mean for future demand, specifically for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) coordinated wireless microphones and IEMs, particularly the peak number of simultaneous assignments used at the largest events? b) national wireless microphone licences (UHF channel 38 and VHF)? 	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>As an amateur theatre group that has just been able to purchase ch38 equipment the major demand is not to have any changes to frequencies on ch38 for the foreseeable future. If they were to change we would be unlikely to be able to afford to upgrade the equipment that we have saved long and hard for.</p>

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c) talkback, fixed audio links and ADS licences?	
Question 6: Do you agree that, given the trends, we are right to focus on wireless microphones/IEMs?	Confidential? – N Yes, focus on wireless microphones.
<p data-bbox="204 616 598 683">Changes in the take-up of bands already available</p> <p data-bbox="204 705 662 862">Question 7: What factors have driven the take-up of different bands for wireless audio? What are the barriers to greater use of the DME band?</p>	Confidential? – N Not really applicable to us unless manufacturers make DME equipment at a reasonable cost.
Question 8: What actions could enable greater take-up of the DME, DECT and licence exempt bands in the future?	N/A
<p data-bbox="204 1099 534 1167">Changes in spectrum availability</p> <p data-bbox="204 1189 646 1379">Question 9: Which potential additional bands might be suitable for wireless audio applications, particularly microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	N/A
Question 10: To what extent do the characteristics of different audio applications drive their requirements for spectrum – for example particular requirements for latency, resilience or capacity?	N/A

Question	Your response
<p>Changes in efficiency of spectrum use</p> <p>Question 11: What changes in spectrum use (technology, working practices, different bands, etc) have enabled audio wireless growth to be accommodated to date, particularly the increased use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues in the context of reduced UHF spectrum availability?</p>	N/A
<p>Question 12: What technologies are currently available or are being developed which can improve audio spectrum efficiency in the future, particularly in the use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	N/A
<p>Question 13: Are there any barriers to adopting more efficient technologies for audio applications, particularly for wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate greater use of those technologies?</p>	N/A
<p>Question 14: What changes to working practices and spectrum planning could improve audio spectrum efficiency in the future, particularly in the use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	N/A
<p>Question 15: Are there any barriers to adopting working practices that could enable more efficient use of spectrum by audio applications, particularly for wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues? What could industry do and what could</p>	N/A

Question	Your response
<p>Ofcom do to facilitate those efficiencies?</p>	
<p>Wireless video</p> <p>Drivers of demand</p> <p>Question 16: What factors (such as more complex events and use of higher resolution equipment) have driven the demand for wireless video bandwidth, in particular for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the increased bandwidth required for the largest sporting events such as Formula 1 at Silverstone and The Open Championship? b) the bandwidth required for nationally important state events such as The Coronation? c) the slow growth or decline in bandwidth used at horse racing fixtures? 	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Question 17: What factors could drive further changes in the demand for wireless video bandwidth in the future, and what will this mean for future demand, in particular for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the bandwidth required for the largest sporting events like Formula 1 at Silverstone and The Open Championship? b) the bandwidth required for nationally important state events such as The Coronation? 	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>

Question	Your response
c) the bandwidth used at horse racing fixtures and other major sporting events?	
<p>Potential new bands</p> <p>Question 18: What factors have influenced the degree of take-up of existing bands used by wireless video applications, particularly the growth in take-up of the 7 GHz band?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Question 19: Which potential additional bands might be suitable for video PMSE applications, particularly at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Question 20: To what extent do the characteristics of different video applications drive their requirements for spectrum – for example particular requirements for resilience or capacity?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Changes in efficiency of spectrum use</p> <p>Question 21: What technologies are currently available or are being developed which can improve wireless video spectrum efficiency in the future?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Question 22: Are there any barriers to adopting more efficient technologies for wireless video? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate greater use of those technologies?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Question 23: What types of video demand could realistically be supported by private (for example 5G) networks?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p> <p>N/A</p>

Question	Your response
Question 24: What changes to working practices and spectrum planning could improve video spectrum efficiency in the future?	Confidential? – Y / N N/A
Question 25: Are there any barriers to adopting working practices that could enable more efficient use of spectrum by wireless video? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate those efficiencies?	Confidential? – Y / N N/A
Other comments Question 26: Do you have any other comments or views on the issues raised in this document?	Confidential? – Y / N More education in licence application for non broadcast users.

Please tell us how you came across about this consultation.

- Email from Ofcom
- Saw it on social media
- Found it on Ofcom's website
- Found it on another website
- Heard about it on TV or radio
- Read about it in a newspaper or magazine
- Heard about it at an event
- Somebody told me or shared it with me
- Other (please specify)

Please complete this form in full and return to liz.hall@ofcom.org.uk.