Your response

Question	Your response
Section 3 –Spectrum use by the PMSE sector in the UK **Question 1**: What are your views on how our processes work - for example our online booking system, turnaround times, and event coordination. Do you think the current approach works well? How could we improve it?	Confidential? – Y
Section 4 – PMSE historic trends **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?	Confidential? – N
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?	Confidential? – N

Question	Your response

## Section 5 – Future trends and opportunities ## Wireless audio ### Drivers of demand **Question 4:** What factors have driven changes in the demand for audio PMSE applications, specifically for: 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?	Confidential? – N a.The increase in coordinated wireless microphone assignments observed by Ofcom reflects genuine changes in production practices within the film and television industry. Larger casts, evolving filming techniques, the growth of unscripted content, and higher expectations for audio quality have all contributed to a greater reliance on wireless microphones and coordinated spectrum use. These trends indicate that demand for reliable PMSE spectrum will remain essential for film and television production in the future. b.In recent years, a greater share of production activity has shifted toward larger studio-backed projects and high-end television, many of which depend on coordinated, location-specific spectrum assignments rather than national licences. These productions typically operate in complex RF environments—such as studios, urban locations, or large-scale sets—where detailed frequency coordination is required regardless of whether a national licence is held. Consequently, while the number of national licences may have declined slightly, this does not necessarily signal a reduction in the underlying need for wireless microphone spectrum. Instead, it reflects changes in production workflows and in the overall mix of productions being undertaken.
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: a) coordinated wireless microphones and IEMs, particularly the peak number of simultaneous assignments used at the largest events? b) national wireless micro-phone licences (UHF channel 38 and VHF)?	Confidential? – N A, I do not work on events, so cannot comment on this sector. B, From a feature film perspective, the future demand for national wireless microphone licences may depend largely on production patterns. Historically, national licences have been particularly useful for low- and mid-budget feature films, which often move between multiple filming locations over extended shooting schedules. A national licence allows these pro-

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c) talkback, fixed audio links and ADS licences?	ductions to operate wireless microphones across different locations without needing to obtain location-specific licences for each site. In recent years there has been some slowdown in this sector of film production, which may partly explain the slight decline in the number of national licences. However, if activity in low- and mid-budget feature film production increases again in the future, demand for national licences may also increase, as these productions benefit from the operational flexibility such licences provide. At the same time, larger productions filming in complex RF environments, particularly in major cities or studio environments, may continue to rely more heavily on coordinated location-specific assignments to ensure reliable operation
Question 6: Do you agree that, given the trends, we are right to focus on wireless microphones/IEMs?	Confidential? – N From a feature film production perspective, I do not fully agree that analysis should focus mainly on wireless microphones and IEM systems. While wireless microphones represent a significant part of PMSE spectrum use, focusing solely on these devices risks ignoring the wider ecosystem of wireless audio systems employed in professional production. On a film set, wireless microphones are usually used alongside various other technologies, including wireless monitoring systems, IFB systems for director and script supervision, and different production communication links. Although not all of these systems may fall under the same licensing categories as wireless microphones, they still contribute to the overall PMSE spectrum usage. Film productions also often operate in complex RF environments where multiple wireless systems are in use simultaneously. The interaction among these systems can greatly impact spectrum planning and coordination, especially in dense urban areas and studio complexes.For these reasons, a primary focus on wireless microphones and IEMs may not fully reflect the real-world demand for PMSE spectrum or the operational challenges faced by production sound teams. From a film production standpoint, it would be beneficial

Question	Your response
	for future analysis to consider the wider range of wireless audio and production communication systems used on set, and to assess how these systems collectively interact within the available spectrum.

Question	Your response
Changes in the take-up of bands already available **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?	Confidential? – Y .

Question	Your response
Question 8: What actions could enable greater take-up of the DME, DECT and licence exempt bands in the future?	Confidential? – Y .
Changes in spectrum availability **Question 9:** Which potential additional bands might be suitable for wireless audio applications, particularly microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?	Confidential? – Y
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?	Confidential? – Y

Question	Your response

Question	Your response
Changes in efficiency of spectrum use **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?	Confidential? – Y

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?	Confidential? – Y

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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?	Confidential? – Y

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?	Confidential? – Y

Question	Your response

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 Ofcom do to facilitate those efficiencies?	Confidential? – Y .

Question	Your response

## Wireless video ### Drivers of demand **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: 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?	Confidential? – Y
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: 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? c) the bandwidth used at horse racing fixtures and other major sporting events?	Confidential? – Y

Question	Your response

Potential news bands **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?	Confidential? – Y
Question 19: Which potential additional bands might be suitable for video PMSE applications, particularly at the largest events and venues?	Confidential? – Y
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?	Confidential? – Y
Changes in efficiency of spectrum use **Question 21:** What technologies are currently available or are being developed which can improve wireless video spectrum efficiency in the future?	Confidential? – Y
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?	Confidential? – Y
Question 23: What types of video demand could realistically be supported by private (for example 5G) networks?	Confidential? – Y
Question 24: What changes to working practices and spectrum planning could improve video spectrum efficiency in the future, particularlye use	Confidential? – Y

Question	Your response
of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?	
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
Other comments **Question 26:** Do you have any other comments or views on the issues raised in this document?	Confidential? – Y

Please tell us how you came across about this consultation.

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- ☐ 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)

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