

Your response

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<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>Yes, I'm happy with this element of Ofcom's work. Having said that, this form is a nightmare to work with. As a Mac user, as I'd imagine most creatives are, the compatibility with Mac software is terrible.</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>None</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>None</p>

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<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>Response to question 4. I work in unscripted TV – docs, travelogues, reality, competition shows. This tends to be cheaper TV to make, particularly reality. In the current financial constraints, this type of TV seems to be one of the few areas that are holding their own. Due to the nature of this work, wired boom mics are being used less and less. Shows like Married at First Sight, 1% Club, Race Across The World are all heavily and increasingly reliant on RF wireless mics. Wired boom, such as is used in drama is being used less and less. Covid and the “two metre rule” meant that booming was shelved during that period and has not really returned in the same way.</p> <p>Reality TV and competition shows often utilises upwards of 10 + wireless mics, but that is only one part of the freq plan. Outside of that, we have sound to camera radio links, iems (often multiple mixes and minus mixes), occasionally wireless booms, in-ear feeds for presenters. Many times I’ve been working with up to 30 frequencies. That just seems to be the way TV tastes are headed.</p> <p>The decline in licences will be a reflection of the reduction in scripted TV, in my opinion. The cost of living crisis and tightening of purse strings in TV has meant that TV is being made faster, cheaper and by slightly fewer people.</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? 	<p>This will be driven by an assumed continuation of the tightening of purse strings. But there should be no changes to Channel 38 and VHF.</p>

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<p>b) national wireless microphone licences (UHF channel 38 and VHF)?</p> <p>c) talkback, fixed audio links and ADS licences?</p>	
<p>Question 6: Do you agree that, given the trends, we are right to focus on wireless microphones/IEMs?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Changes in the take-up of bands already available</p> <p>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>	<p>The barrier is the perfectly good equipment that we've already invested thousands and thousands of pounds in buying. Why move away from Channel 38? Our gear needs to be compatible, "plug and play" between professionals.</p>
<p>Question 8: What actions could enable greater take-up of the DME, DECT and licence exempt bands in the future?</p>	<p>See above.</p>
<p>Changes in spectrum availability</p> <p>Question 9: Which potential additional bands might be suitable for wireless audio applications, particularly microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>

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<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>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>
<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>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>
<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>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>
<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>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>
<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>	<p>Leave Channel 38 as it is. Please don't sell it. It's critical to our industry. We're all invested too deeply. Changes to it will bankrupt all UK sound crew. Seriously. Unless you can reimburse us all, in full, for all our kit.</p>

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Ofcom do to facilitate those efficiencies?	
<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? 	Confidential? – Y / N
<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? 	Confidential? – Y / N

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<p>c) the bandwidth used at horse racing fixtures and other major sporting events?</p>	
<p>Potential news 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>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>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>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>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>Question 23: What types of video demand could realistically be supported by private (for example 5G) networks?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p>

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<p>Question 24: What changes to working practices and spectrum planning could improve video spectrum efficiency in the future, particularly in the use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p>
<p>Other comments</p> <p>Question 26: Do you have any other comments or views on the issues raised in this document?</p>	<p>Confidential? – Y / N</p>

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.