

Notice of proposed regulations

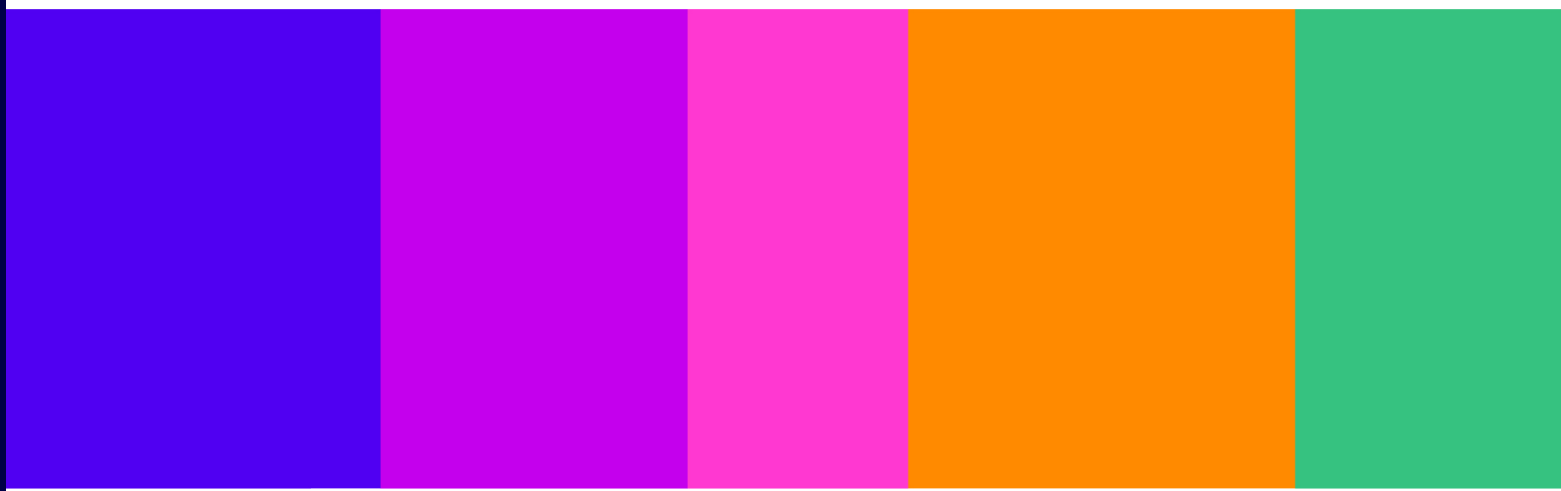
Notice of proposals to make Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2026

Consultation

Published 20 July 2026

Closing date for responses: 7 September 2026

For more information on this publication, please visit [ofcom.org.uk](https://www.ofcom.org.uk)



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1. Overview

- 1.1 Ofcom is responsible for authorising use of the radio spectrum. We do this by granting wireless telegraphy licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (the “WT Act”) or by making regulations exempting users from the requirement to hold such a licence.
- 1.2 We are consulting on proposals to make new regulations entitled the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2026 (the “Proposed Regulations”). The Proposed Regulations would introduce new licence exemptions. The need for the Proposed Regulations arises as a result of the policy [decisions](#) we have made regarding expanding Wi-Fi access in the Upper 6 GHz band from 5925–6425 MHz to 6425–6585 MHz.
- 1.3 Licence exemption supports the development and take up of wireless technologies and reduces the regulatory burden on manufacturers and users, encouraging the introduction of new and innovative products to the market. In this case we have decided to enable access to the Upper 6 GHz band for licence exempt Wi-Fi use, as we consider this will support industries to innovate and to meet the anticipated growth in demand for their networks. The result for consumers and businesses will be improved wireless connectivity, along with new and different types of communications services.
- 1.4 A brief outline of what we are proposing is set out below:

What we are proposing – in brief

We are giving notice of Ofcom’s proposal to make The Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2026 (the “Proposed Regulations”). The Proposed Regulations would amend the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2021 (the “2021 Regulations”) in relation to:

- **Wi-Fi access in the Upper 6 GHz band:** Extending the frequency range allocated to Wireless Access Services (Wi-Fi) by a further 160 MHz, from 5925–6425 MHz to include 6425–6585 MHz; This includes **low power indoor** use and **very low power** indoor or outdoor use of 160 MHz in the 6425–6585 MHz frequency range under the same technical conditions as the Lower 6 GHz band.

- 1.5 In accordance with the requirements of the WT Act, this document gives notice of our intention to make the Proposed Regulations.
- 1.6 The Proposed Regulations would implement changes where Ofcom has previously made a policy decision. The focus of this consultation is therefore whether the Proposed Regulations correctly implement Ofcom’s policy decisions as well as any other comments that stakeholders might have on the Proposed Regulations.
- 1.7 Comments on the Proposed Regulations are invited by 5pm on Monday 7 September 2026. Subject to consideration of responses, we intend to bring the final regulations into force within a reasonable period after the publication of our final statement shortly afterwards. The Proposed Regulations are included in this document at Annex 1.

2. Background

What is licence exemption?

- 2.1 Licence exemption allows certain devices or activities to operate without needing a specific WT Act licence. This is typically applied to low-power equipment that is unlikely to cause interference to other services.
- 2.2 Licence exemption helps to reduce the regulatory burden on consumers and businesses by facilitating the widespread use of low-power technologies. During a typical day most people in the UK already interact with a wide range of wireless devices that have been exempted from the need to hold a WT Act licence. Examples include mobile phones, Wi-Fi routers, car key-fobs, baby monitors and wireless doorbells. This document sets out for consultation proposed changes to regulations that will implement decisions taken by Ofcom in relation to certain Wi-Fi uses in the Upper 6 GHz band.

Relevant legal framework

- 2.3 Ofcom is responsible for authorising and managing use of the radio spectrum in the UK. This is a limited and valuable resource, and one of our main duties is to secure its optimal use. We achieve this by granting wireless telegraphy licences under the WT Act or by making statutory regulations exempting users of particular equipment from the requirement to hold such a licence.
- 2.4 Under section 8 (1) of the WT Act, it is unlawful to establish or use a wireless telegraphy station or install or use wireless telegraphy apparatus except under and in accordance with a wireless telegraphy licence granted under the WT Act.
- 2.5 However, under section 8 (3) of that Act, Ofcom may make regulations exempting from the licensing requirements under section 8 (1) the establishment, installation or use of wireless telegraphy stations or wireless telegraphy apparatus of such classes or description as may be specified in the regulations, either absolutely or subject to such terms, provisions and limitations as may be specified.
- 2.6 Under section 8(4) of the WT Act, Ofcom must make regulations to exempt equipment if its installation or use meets the conditions under section 8(5) of the WT Act and is not likely to:
- involve undue interference with wireless telegraphy;
 - have an adverse effect on technical quality of service;
 - lead to inefficient use of the part of the electromagnetic spectrum available for wireless telegraphy;
 - inhibit the development of effective arrangements for the sharing of frequencies;
 - endanger safety of life;
 - prejudice the promotion of social, regional or territorial cohesion; or
 - prejudice the promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity and media pluralism.

- 2.7 In accordance with the requirements of section 8(3B) of the WT Act, the terms, provisions and limitations specified in the regulations must be:
- objectively justifiable in relation to the wireless telegraphy stations or wireless telegraphy apparatus to which they relate;
 - not such as to discriminate unduly against particular persons or against a particular description of persons;
 - proportionate to what they are intended to achieve; and
 - transparent in relation to what they are intended to achieve.

Statutory notice

- 2.8 This Section gives formal notice under section 122 of the WT Act of our proposal to make the Proposed Regulations. The general effect of the Proposed Regulations is described below, and further detail is also provided in this section. A draft of the Proposed Regulations is set out in Annex 1 of this document. We welcome comments on the substance and drafting. This consultation will be open for comments until 5pm on Monday 7 September 2026.
- 2.9 Before making any regulations, we are required by section 122(4) of the WT Act to give notice of our proposal to do so. Under section 122(5), the notice must state that Ofcom proposes to make the regulations in question, set out their general effect, specify an address from which a copy of the proposed regulations or order may be obtained, and specify a time before which any representations with respect to the proposal must be made to Ofcom. That time must be no earlier than the end of the period of 30 days, beginning with the day after the latest day on which the notice is given or published (section 122(6) WT Act).
- 2.10 Hard copies of this Notice and the Proposed Regulations can be obtained from:
- Space Spectrum & Authorisation Policy
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 9HA
Email: Regulations@ofcom.org.uk

Changes the Proposed Regulations would implement

- 2.11 The Proposed Regulations will implement the decision, made following consultation, that we have set out in our [July 2026 Statement](#) confirming details of our approach to authorising Wi-Fi use of 6425-6585 MHz (which we designated as Wi-Fi priority portion of the Upper 6 GHz band).
- 2.12 In particular, the decision is to extend Wi-Fi use in the bottom 160 MHz of the 6425-6585 MHz band for low power indoor use and very low power indoor or outdoor use.
- 2.13 The same Statement also includes our decision to allow higher power and outdoor or indoor use of Wi-Fi at 6425-7125 MHz, for devices under the control of an Automated Frequency Coordination (AFC) system. This related decision will be implemented separately in [The Wireless Telegraphy \(Dynamic Spectrum Access Devices\) \(Exemption\)](#)

[Regulations 2026](#) and [The Wireless Telegraphy \(Dynamic Spectrum Access Service\) \(Frequencies\) Regulations 2026](#) which will come into effect in autumn 2026. These are set out in substantially the form they have been made in our statement, [Enabling automated frequency coordination \(AFC\) in the 6 GHz band](#).

- 2.14 The Proposed Regulations would therefore amend the 2021 Regulations to reflect the updated technical conditions contained in draft Interface Requirement IR 2030 (see Annex 2) to reflect extending the frequency range from 5925-6425 MHz to 5925-6585 MHz.

3. General effect of the Proposed Regulations

- 3.1 In this section, we set out the general effects of the Proposed Regulations as required by section 122(5)(b) of the WT Act (including, where relevant, the draft Interface Requirements to which the Proposed Regulations refer).

Extent of application

- 3.2 The proposed Regulations would extend to (i) the United Kingdom; and (ii) the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, subject to their agreement.

General effect

- 3.3 The overall general effect of the Proposed Regulations would be to implement the decision Ofcom has taken in relation to updating the wireless telegraphy exemptions.
- 3.4 Regulation 1 sets out the name of the Proposed Regulations and the date when the Proposed Regulations would come into force (which we discuss further at paragraph 3.6 below).
- 3.5 Regulation 2 amends the licence exemption for SRDs by updating the publication date for the specific Interface Requirement IR 2030 from the version published in April 2026 to the latest version.

Entry into force of the Proposed Regulations

- 3.6 The final regulations will be made after Ofcom has concluded its consultation process, taking into consideration any representations received. We intend to bring the Proposed Regulations into force within a reasonable period after the publication of our final statement in autumn 2026.

Comments and representations

- 3.7 We are inviting comments on whether the Proposed Regulations correctly implement the policy decisions summarised in Section 2.
- 3.8 Subject to our consideration of responses, we intend to bring the Proposed Regulations into force within a reasonable period after making them.

Question 1: Do you have any comments on our drafting of the Proposed Regulations? Please give reasons supported by evidence for your views.

Question 2: Do you have any comments relating to any other matter in this Notice?

- 3.9 Responses are invited by 5pm on Monday 7 September 2026.

A1. Draft Proposed Regulations

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations 2026

Made

Coming into force

The Office of Communications (“OFCOM”), in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 8(3) and 122(7) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (“the Act”)¹, makes the following Regulations.

Before making these Regulations, OFCOM have given notice of their proposal to do so in accordance with section 122(4)(a) of the Act, published notice of their proposal in accordance with section 122(4)(b) of the Act, and have considered the representations made to them before the time specified in the notice in accordance with section 122(4)(c) of the Act.

Citation and commencement

1. –These Regulations may be cited as the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2026 and shall come into force on XXXX 2026.

Amendment of the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2021

- 2.- (1) The Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2021² are amended as follows.

(2) in regulation 4 (Short range devices) for “IR 2030 -UK Interface Requirement 2030, Licence Exempt Short Range Devices (SRDs)”, published by OFCOM in April 2026, is exempt” substitute “IR2030-UK Interface Requirement 2030, Licence Exempt Short Range Devices (SRDs)”, published by Ofcom in XXXX 2026, is exempt”

¹ 2006 c. 36. Section 8(3) and section 122(7) were extended to the Bailiwick of Guernsey by article 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy (Guernsey) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/3325); to the Bailiwick of Jersey by article 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy (Jersey) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/3324); and to the Isle of Man by article 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy (Isle of Man) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/278).

² S.I. 2021/493 as amended by S.I. 2021/948 and S.I. 2023/243.

A2. Draft proposed Interface Requirement

- A2.1 In section 2 we have described the changes that we propose to make to Interface Requirement (IR) 2030.
- A2.2 An extract of the relevant changes are highlighted in Table 1 below. The proposed changes can also be found under Table 3.5 Wideband Data Transmission Systems (WBDTS), Wireless Access Systems (WAS) & Short Range Indoor Data Links, see pages 45-46. A draft copy of IR 2030 is published in full on the Ofcom website alongside this Notice:
- a) [Updated draft UK Interface Requirement \(IR\) 2030 – Licence exempt Short Range Devices \(SRDs\)](#)
- A2.3 **Table 1:** Extract from pages 45-46 of draft IR 2030 showing the updated technical conditions
(the proposed changes to IR 2030 are indicated by **bold** text in **green highlight** for new additions and strike-out text in **red highlight** for deletions)

Interface / Notification number / Date	Application	Comments to application	Frequency band	Maximum transmit power / Power spectral density / Field strength	Comments to Maximum transmit power / Power spectral density / Field strength	Channelling	Channel access and occupation rules	Informative Reference
IR2030/7/6	Wireless Access Systems (WAS)	Equipment must not form part of a fixed outdoors installation Airborne use is not permitted. Low Power Indoor apparatus may only be used within a building or within an aircraft or any other enclosed space, having attenuation characteristics at least equivalent to those of a building or an aircraft, to establish a connection with stations or apparatus within the same building or aircraft or other enclosed space for communications purposes.	5925 – 6425 6585 MHz	Maximum mean EIRP of 250mW for Low Power indoor and 25mW for Very Low Power indoor and mobile outdoor. Maximum mean EIRP density of 12.6mW/ MHz in any 1 MHz band.			Techniques to access spectrum and mitigate interference that provide at least equivalent performance to the techniques described in designated standards specified in the Notices of publication (See Section 4) for the 5150 – 5250 MHz band must be used.	

A2.4 Table 2: FOR INFORMATION ONLY: We have included below the technical parameters for Wi-Fi devices controlled by an AFC database. The full technical conditions will be set out in the [Wireless Telegraphy \(Dynamic Spectrum Access Devices\) \(Exemption\) Regulations 2026](#) which we expect to make in autumn 2026. For the avoidance of doubt the table below does not form part of IR 2030

Interface / Notification number / Date	Application	Comments to application	Frequency band	Maximum transmit power / Power spectral density / Field strength	Comments to Maximum transmit power / Power spectral density / Field strength	Channelling	Channel access and occupation rules	Informative Reference
xxx	Wireless Access Systems (WAS)	This set of conditions is only available to equipment under the control of a Dynamic Spectrum Access Service.	5925 – 7125 MHz	Standard Power Access Point: Maximum mean EIRP of 4W for fixed indoor and outdoor. Maximum mean EIRP density of 200mW/MHz in any 1 MHz band.			Automated Frequency Coordination (AFC) is a type of Dynamic Spectrum Access Service that will authorise maximum mean EIRPs and frequencies for devices.	
		Airborne, maritime and vehicular use is not permitted.		Fixed Client Device: Maximum mean EIRP of 4W for fixed indoor and outdoor. Maximum mean EIRP density of 200mW/MHz in any 1 MHz band.				
		A Standard Power Access Point or Fixed Client Device must operate only from a fixed location. A mobile client device must be under the control of a Standard		Mobile Client Device: Maximum mean EIRP of 1W. Maximum mean EIRP density of 50mW/MHz in any 1 MHz band.	Mobile client devices operating under the control of a Standard Power Access Point must limit their maximum			
							Techniques to access spectrum and mitigate interference that provide at least equivalent performance to the techniques described in designated standards specified in the Notices of publication (See	

Interface / Notification number / Date	Application	Comments to application	Frequency band	Maximum transmit power / Power spectral density / Field strength	Comments to Maximum transmit power / Power spectral density / Field strength	Channelling	Channel access and occupation rules	Informative Reference
		Power Access Point and is not permitted to initiate a network or connect directly to another client device.			mean EIRP to 6dB less than their associated Standard Power Access Point's maximum mean EIRP, as authorised by the Dynamic Spectrum Access Service.		section 4 of IR2030) for the 5150 – 5250 MHz band must be used.	

A3. Impact assessments

Impact assessment

- A3.1 Section 7 of the Communications Act 2003 requires us to carry out and publish an assessment of the likely impact of implementing a proposal which would be likely to have a significant impact on businesses or the general public, or when there is a major change in Ofcom's activities.
- A3.2 More generally, impact assessments form part of good policy making and we therefore expect to carry them out in relation to a large majority of our proposals. We use impact assessments to help us understand and assess the potential impact of our policy decisions before we make them. They also help us explain the policy decisions we have decided to take and why we consider those decisions best fulfil our applicable duties and objectives in the least intrusive way. Our [Impact Assessment Guidance](#) sets out our general approach to how we assess and present the impact of our proposed decisions.
- A3.3 In preparing this document, we have considered the citizen and consumer interests relating to licence-exempt equipment. We have also considered the impact on service providers, manufacturers and users of devices and applications and we believe the benefits that we have identified will promote economic growth. We have taken into account our statutory duties, including our statutory duties in section 3³ and section 6 of the WT Act.

Proposal, purpose and intended effect

- A3.4 This Notice sets out proposals to make the Proposed Regulations which would amend the 2021 Regulations. The Proposed Regulations would authorise Wi-Fi equipment using the 6425–6585 MHz spectrum for low power indoor use and very low power indoor or outdoor use.
- A3.5 In the following documents we have set out our decisions, following consultation, on the policies behind the updated licence exemption that the Proposed Regulations would implement (full impact assessments have been undertaken where relevant and appropriate):
- a) Our January 2026 [statement and further consultation](#) which set out our decision for Wi-Fi in the Lower 6 GHz band and further proposals for prioritising spectrum sharing in the Upper 6 GHz band; and
 - b) Our July 2026 statement confirming details of our authorisation approach for Wi-Fi in the Upper 6 GHz band.
- A3.6 We consider that our decisions regarding licence exemption, taken as a whole, will help us to meet our statutory duties in relation to the management of spectrum and our more general duties to further the interests of citizens and consumers.

³ In particular, but not exclusively, Ofcom's duty to have regard to the extent to which spectrum is available for use or further use for wireless telegraphy; and Ofcom's duty to have regard to the desirability of promoting the efficient management and use of spectrum; the economic and other benefits that may arise from the use of wireless telegraphy and the development of innovative services.

- A3.7 In exercising our regulatory functions, we are also required to have regard to the desirability of promoting economic growth (the ‘growth duty’).⁴ In particular, we must consider the importance for the promotion of economic growth of exercising the regulatory function in a way which ensures that regulatory action is taken only when it is needed, and any action taken is proportionate. Section 110(3) of the Deregulation Act 2015 requires us to have regard to the [Growth Duty Statutory Guidance](#).

Benefits to citizens and consumers

- A3.8 We consider there are a number of benefits for consumers and businesses from the decisions we have taken including:
- a) Ensuring increased available spectrum to meet growing traffic demand from Wi-Fi solutions, including enterprise settings, large public venues and high-density housing;
 - b) Supporting the introduction of new and innovative technologies that will be of benefit to consumers and citizens in general; and
 - c) Reducing the regulatory and administrative burden on the users of certain wireless telegraphy devices by authorising these via licence exemption.

Costs to Ofcom

- A3.9 There are one-off administrative costs to Ofcom associated with making Statutory Instruments. We consider these administrative costs to be small relative to the expected benefits of making the Proposed Regulations. Without them the policy changes that Ofcom has consulted on and decided upon, would not be given full effect in regulations. Stakeholders would not benefit from being able to consult the Proposed Regulations to see the appropriate authorisation for relevant equipment. This could result in uncertainty and unnecessary costs for stakeholders.

Cost to business, including small business and the voluntary sector

- A3.10 Ofcom’s decision to make licence exemption regulations can have a range of implications for businesses including small enterprises and organisations in the voluntary sector. While licence exemption typically removes the need for individual licensing and associated fees, the broader impact on stakeholders warrants careful consideration.
- A3.11 Exemption normally removes direct licence fees and simplifies regulatory obligations, particularly beneficial for SMEs with limited legal or regulatory capacity. Small businesses often lack dedicated regulatory teams, so exemption can significantly reduce overheads and improve operational agility. By facilitating easier access to spectrum for low-power devices, exemption can encourage innovation and reduce barriers to entry for new services and products.
- A3.12 In this case our decision to extend the authorised use of Wi-Fi equipment under licence exemption may involve a small cost for device manufacturers. This would only apply where

⁴ See section 108 of the Deregulation Act 2015, which was extended to Ofcom’s regulatory functions by The Economic Growth (Regulatory Functions) (Amendment) Order 2024.

manufacturers choose to adapt equipment to implement these decisions. We do not expect these decisions to have any impact on existing devices.

Equality impact assessment

- A3.13 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the “2010 Act”) imposes a duty on Ofcom, when carrying out its functions, to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and other prohibited conduct related to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. The 2010 Act also requires Ofcom to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share specified protected characteristics and persons who do not.
- A3.14 Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (the “1998 Act”) also imposes a duty on Ofcom, when carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations across a range of categories outlined in the 1998 Act.
- A3.15 To help us comply with our duties under the 2010 Act and the 1998 Act, we assess the impact of our proposals on persons sharing protected characteristics and in particular whether they may discriminate against such persons or impact on equality of opportunity or good relations.
- A3.16 We have given careful consideration to whether our proposed changes would have a particular impact on persons sharing protected characteristics (broadly including race, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership and religion or belief in the UK and also dependents and political opinion in Northern Ireland), and in particular whether they may discriminate against such persons or impact on equality of opportunity or good relations.
- A3.17 When thinking about equality we think more broadly than persons that share protected characteristics identified in equalities legislation and think about potential impacts on various groups of persons (see paragraph 4.7 of our [impact assessment guidance](#)).
- A3.18 In particular, section 3(4) of the Communications Act 2003 also requires us to have regard to the needs and interests of specific groups of persons when performing our duties, as appear to us to be relevant in the circumstances. These include:
- a) the vulnerability of children and of others whose circumstances appear to us to put them in need of special protection;
 - b) the needs of persons with disabilities, older persons and persons on low incomes; and
 - c) the different interests of persons in the different parts of the UK, of the different ethnic communities within the UK and of persons living in rural and in urban areas.
- A3.19 We do not consider that our proposals will affect any specific groups of persons (including persons that share protected characteristics under the 2010 Act or the 1998 Act) differently to the general population.
- A3.20 We have not carried out separate equality impact assessments in relation to the additional equality groups in Northern Ireland: religious belief, political opinion and dependents. This is because we anticipate that our proposal on updating the licence exemption regulations would not have a differential impact in Northern Ireland compared to consumers in general.

Welsh language

- A3.21 Ofcom is required to take Welsh language considerations into account when formulating, reviewing or revising policies which are relevant to Wales (including proposals which are not targeted at Wales specifically but are of interest across the UK).
- A3.22 In our previous statements we did not consider that our proposals would have any impact on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language or treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. We also did not think there are ways in which our decision on updating the licence exemption regulations could be formulated so as to have, or increase, a positive impact, or not have adverse effects or decrease any adverse effects. This is because our proposals relate to spectrum across the UK.

Conclusion

- A3.23 Having assessed the impact of making the Proposed Regulations, Ofcom provisionally considers that the benefits of making the Proposed Regulations justify the associated costs.

A4. Responding to this consultation

How to respond

- A4.1 Ofcom would like to receive views and comments on the issues raised in this document, by 5pm on Monday 7 September 2026.
- A4.2 You can download a response form from [here](#). You can return this by email or post to the address provided in the response form.
- A4.3 If your response is a large file, or has supporting charts, tables or other data, please email it to regulations@ofcom.org.uk as an attachment in Microsoft Word format, together with the cover sheet.
- A4.4 Responses may alternatively be posted to the address below, marked with the title of the consultation:
- Space Spectrum & Authorisation Policy
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
- A4.5 We welcome responses in formats other than print, for example an audio recording or a British Sign Language video. To respond in BSL:
- > send us a recording of you signing your response. This should be no longer than 5 minutes. Suitable file formats are DVDs, wmv or QuickTime files; or
 - > upload a video of you signing your response directly to YouTube (or another hosting site) and send us the link.
- A4.6 We will publish a transcript of any audio or video responses we receive (unless your response is confidential)
- A4.7 We do not need a paper copy of your response as well as an electronic version. We will acknowledge receipt of a response submitted to us by email.
- A4.8 You do not have to answer all the questions in the consultation if you do not have a view; a short response on just one point is fine. We also welcome joint responses.
- A4.9 It would be helpful if your response could include direct answers to the questions asked in the consultation document. The questions are listed at Annex X. It would also help if you could explain why you hold your views, and what you think the effect of Ofcom's proposals would be.
- A4.10 If you want to discuss the issues and questions raised in this consultation, please contact regulations@ofcom.org.uk.

Confidentiality

- A4.11 Consultations are more effective if we publish the responses before the consultation period closes. This can help people and organisations with limited resources or familiarity

with the issues to respond in a more informed way. So, in the interests of transparency and good regulatory practice, and because we believe it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other respondents' views, we usually publish responses on the Ofcom website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period.

- A4.12 If you think your response should be kept confidential, please specify which part(s) this applies to and explain why. Please send any confidential sections as a separate annex. If you want your name, address, other contact details or job title to remain confidential, please provide them only in the cover sheet, so that we don't have to edit your response.
- A4.13 If someone asks us to keep all or part of a response confidential, we will treat this request seriously and try to respect it. But sometimes we will need to publish all responses, including those that are marked as confidential (for example, so we can explain our decisions and people can understand our reasoning or in order to meet legal obligations). Where this is the case (and the relevant information is not already in the public domain), we will normally first explain our intention to publish information from your response and give you the opportunity to raise concerns about the proposed publication. We will generally try to resolve any objections you may have through constructive dialogue. If we remain of the view that we need to publish all or part of your response and you continue to object, we will give you advance warning prior to publication.
- A4.14 To fulfil our pre-disclosure duty, we may share a copy of your response with the relevant government department before we publish it on our website.
- A4.15 Please also note that copyright and all other intellectual property in responses will be assumed to be licensed to Ofcom to use. Ofcom's intellectual property rights are explained further in our Terms of Use.

Next steps

- A4.16 Following this consultation period, Ofcom plans to publish a notice confirming the Proposed Regulations in autumn 2026.
- A4.17 If you wish, you can register to receive mail updates alerting you to new Ofcom publications.

Ofcom's consultation processes

- A4.18 Ofcom aims to make responding to a consultation as easy as possible. For more information, please see our consultation principles in Annex x.
- A4.19 If you have any comments or suggestions on how we manage our consultations, please email us at consult@ofcom.org.uk. We particularly welcome ideas on how Ofcom could more effectively seek the views of groups or individuals, such as small businesses and residential consumers, who are less likely to give their opinions through a formal consultation.
- A4.20 If you would like to discuss these issues, or Ofcom's consultation processes more generally, please contact the corporation secretary:

Corporation Secretary
Ofcom
Riverside House

2a Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
Email: corporationsecretary@ofcom.org.uk

A5. Ofcom's consultation principles

Ofcom has seven principles that it follows for every public written consultation:

Before the consultation

1. Wherever possible, we will hold informal talks with people and organisations before announcing a big consultation, to find out whether we are thinking along the right lines. If we do not have enough time to do this, we will hold an open meeting to explain our proposals, shortly after announcing the consultation.

During the consultation

2. We will be clear about whom we are consulting, why, on what questions and for how long.
3. We will make the consultation document as short and simple as possible, with an overview of no more than two pages. We will try to make it as easy as possible for people to give us a written response.
4. When setting the length of the consultation period, we will consider the nature of our proposals and their potential impact. We will always make clear the closing date for responses.
5. A person within Ofcom will be in charge of making sure we follow our own guidelines and aim to reach the largest possible number of people and organisations who may be interested in the outcome of our decisions. Ofcom's Consultation Champion is the main person to contact if you have views on the way we run our consultations.
6. If we are not able to follow any of these principles, we will explain why.

After the consultation

7. We think it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other people's views, so we usually publish the responses on our website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. After the consultation we will make our decisions and publish a statement explaining what we are going to do, and why, showing how respondents' views helped to shape these decisions.

A6. Consultation coversheet

Basic details

Consultation title:

To (Ofcom contact):

Name of respondent:

Representing (self or organisation/s):

Address (if not received by email):

Confidentiality

Please tick below what part of your response you consider is confidential, giving your reasons why

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| > Nothing | ☐ |
| > Name/contact details/job title | ☐ |
| > Whole response | ☐ |
| > Organisation | ☐ |
| > Part of the response | ☐ |

If you selected 'Part of the response', please specify which parts:

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation not to be published, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Declaration

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response that Ofcom can publish. However, in supplying this response, I understand that Ofcom may need to publish all responses, including those which are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom aims to publish responses at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. If your response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and you would prefer us to publish your response only once the consultation has ended, please tick here.

Name

Signed (if hard copy)

A7. Consultation questions

Please tell us how you came across 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)

Question 1: Do you have any comments on our drafting of the Proposed Regulations? Please give reasons supported by evidence for your views.

Question 2: Do you have any comments relating to any other matter in this Notice?

The overview section in this document is a simplified high-level summary only. The proposals we are consulting on and our reasoning are set out in the full document.

Checklist

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