

## **1: Demand and supply of services:**

## **2: Technological developments:**

The introduction of new services into the UHF spectrum has already been considered in the form of cognitive devices, including their use for wireless broadband services. After careful consideration by Ofcom, in 2007 it was concluded that access would only be permitted as long as these new devices did not cause harmful interference to licensed uses, including DTT and PMSE. Further work has shown that the most likely way of achieving this is through geo-location methods, co-ordinating new services with licensed use through reference to a central database. In developing a framework for the long term future of UHF spectrum it is vital that DTT and PMSE retain protection from the introduction of new services in a similar way.

## **3: International developments:**

n/a

## **4: Benefits to citizens and consumers:**

## **5: Future timescales:**

## **6: Additional comments:**

The consultation aims to understand better the future demands on the UHF spectrum, reflecting Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and the aspirations for new services such as wireless broadband. The document hasn't fully reflected the extensive use of the spectrum by PMSE and the considerable value it delivers to citizens and consumers. PMSE is referenced in the document but seems to relate to Ch38 only in Figure 1. In fact the whole UHF spectrum Bands IV and V are a vital resource for wireless microphones and monitors. Looking at historical data almost all channels (except four) have ongoing annual assignments. Following Digital Switchover (DSO) rising demand will need to be accommodated in the reduced quantity of interleaved spectrum that remains. Last August the statement on future spectrum access for PMSE recognised the need provide a security of tenure for PMSE spectrum including the remaining interleaved spectrum in Bands IV and V. A period of ten years was chosen, ending in 2021, to give PMSE users sufficient certainty to make efficient investment decisions while minimizing the risk of inefficient spectrum use. Subsequently the statement on 'Future access to interleaved spectrum for PMSE' has set out in more detail the pattern of available spectrum following DSO.