

# Communications Commission

## *Oaseirys Çhellinsh*

**DIRECTOR**  
Dr Carmel McLaughlin

**Salisbury House**  
**Victoria Street**  
**Douglas**  
**ISLE OF MAN**  
**IM1 2LW**

Mr Mathew Conway  
Director of Operations  
Spectrum Policy Group  
OFCOM  
Riverside House  
2a Southwark Bridge Rd  
London SE1 9HA

Telephone: (01624) 677022  
Fax: (01624) 626499

Our Ref:2038.OFC.CMcL/MK

27 April 2009

Dear Matthew

### **Digital Dividend: Clearing the 800MHz Band**

I am writing further to our discussions and in response to Ofcom's Consultation Document *Digital Dividend: clearing the 800 MHz Band*.

The Communications Commission, at its Board Meeting on Monday 30 March 2009, confirmed its earlier decision that spectrum trading is not be extended to the Isle of Man and that we will conduct our own separate award process for the digital dividend. The one exception to this is the award of spectrum for Programme Making and Special Events where the Commission has agreed that we should be part of the UK Band Manager's regime. Can you advise whether this can be achieved through an amendment to UK legislation, or whether the Island would have to consider the extension of spectrum trading solely for PMSE?

With respect to the consultation document, we recognise the economic benefits of clearing the 800 MHz band to bring it in line with the digital dividend in other European Countries. However, we would seek your confirmation that this will not impact on viewers on the Isle of Man and in particular that revisions to the UK DSO plan will not impact on the Island which will switch to digital this summer. In particular, can you confirm that viewers on the Isle of Man will not be required to purchase new aerials following DSO as a result of revisions to the UK DSO plan? We would also hope that there is no additional retuning required as a consequence of revisions to the UK plan and no detrimental impact on coverage. I would appreciate being kept informed and consulted on any implications for the Island both in terms of DTT and any impacts on our digital dividend in both the cleared and interleaved spectrum.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Dr Carmel McLaughlin  
Director  
Cc Kalpesh Brahmhatt