

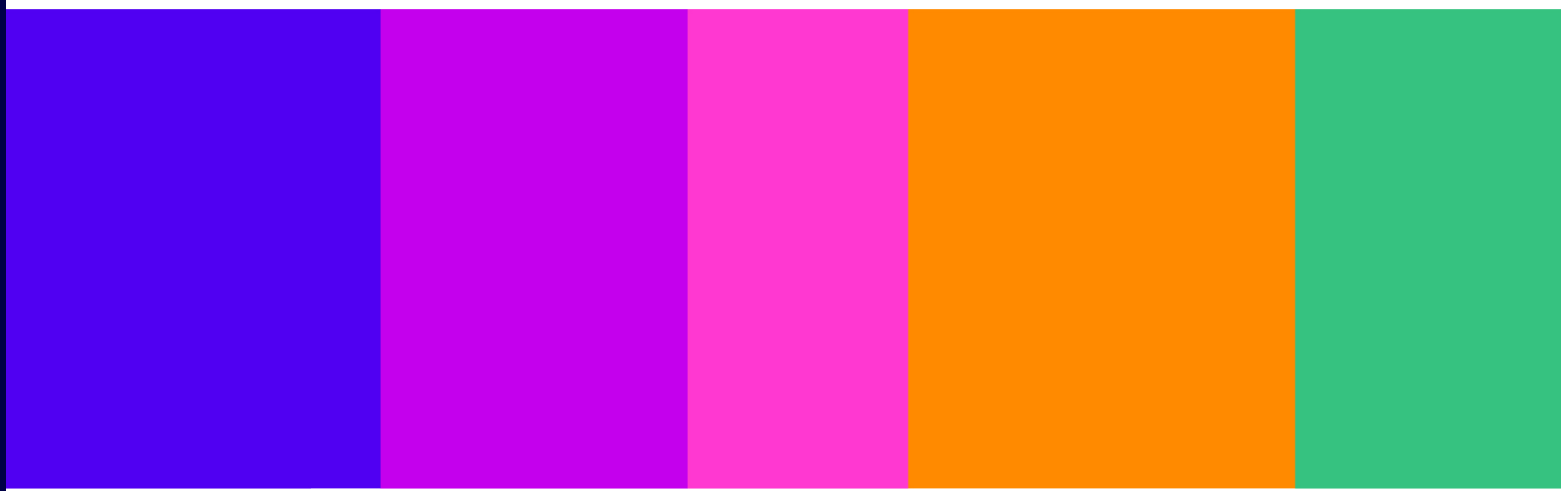
# Coastal Station Radio Training School

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Guidance for licence exempt operation

**Guidance**

Published 5 May 2026



# Overview

This guidance document provides information on changes Ofcom has made to the authorisation of Coastal Station Radio (CSR) Training School Radio systems operating in the 156 – 163 MHz band in the United Kingdom (UK) and the Crown Dependencies of Jersey, Guernsey, and the Isle of Man.

## What licensees should be aware of

On 29 April 2026 [regulations](#) came into force that made the operation of CSR (Training School) equipment in the 156 – 163 MHz band exempt from licensing if the operation complies with the technical conditions set out in [IR 2114](#). These provisions include:

- Maximum field strength, at 10 metres distance, of 0 dBµA/m;
- Used only indoors; and
- Must only use Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) numbers set out in [IR 2114](#).

We are contacting all existing licensees to make them aware of this change. Although equipment users no longer require a licence to operate, existing licensees will have to either surrender their licence, or continue to hold their licence until it is revoked by Ofcom.

## Background to the licence

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CSR Training School equipment was previously licenced as a ‘Light’ licence. The licence authorised the testing and demonstration of maritime equipment for training and examination purposes. The licence authorised the use of low power equipment and provided a list of 20 generic MMSI numbers that could be used within an indoor classroom environment on land. The licence was subject to a one-off application fee of £20.

CSR Training School equipment is operated on a non-interference, non-protected basis according to the technical conditions set out in the licence. This means that the equipment must not cause harmful interference to any other authorised services and that no protection will be given from harmful interference from other authorised services.

## Licence exemption

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On 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 we published a statement [‘Updating the Wireless Telegraphy Licence Exemptions’ \(the “2025 Statement”\)](#). In this statement, we confirmed our decision to update the technical conditions for the use of certain licence exempt equipment and to introduce new rules authorising licence-exempt use of equipment for CSR Training School equipment in 156 – 163 MHz. We stated that operators would still be required to comply with the existing technical conditions set out in [IR 2114](#). We are contacting all current holders of the licence about these changes. This decision followed our consultation [Updating Wireless Telegraphy Licence Exemptions](#) published on 17 January 2025.

Equipment deployed under the previous licence does not need to be changed under this licence exemption and is still authorised to operate.

**Table 1: CSR (Training School) technical conditions for licence-exempt use**

Indoor/outdoor	Frequency	Power	Distance
Indoor only	156 – 163 MHz	Field strength limit of 0 dB $\mu$ v/m	10 m

**Table 2: CSR (Training School) MMSI numbers for licence-exempt use**

MMSI type	MMSI number	
Ship station	235899980	235899990
	235899981	235899991
	235899982	235899992
	235899983	235899993
	235899984	235899994
	235899985	235899995
	235899986	235899996
	235899987	235899997
	235899988	235899998
	235899989	235899999
Group ship	023200599	023200600
Coastal station	002320790	002320791
Group coastal	002320780	002320781
Fixed-wing aircraft	111232190	111232191
Helicopters	111232590	111232591

## Licence surrender or revocation

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### Licence surrender

Current holders of the licence are strongly urged to contact Ofcom to surrender their licence with immediate effect.

As of 29 April 2026, CSR (Training School) licences will not be able to be surrendered via the Online Licensing Portal. Therefore, to surrender your licence, licensees should contact the Spectrum Licensing Team via the [webform](#), or by calling 0300 123 1000 and requesting option 6 - 'other'.

The licensee and registered licence contact will receive a confirmation letter once the licence has been surrendered; this will be either via email or post depending on the preferred contact method on the account.

### Licence revocation

If you do not confirm that you wish to surrender your licence, Ofcom will issue a formal revocation notice in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006.

Under Condition 1.2(f) of the General Licence Conditions Booklet, we are required to give licensees five years' notice before revocation of your licence can take effect.

## Further assistance

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If you require any further information concerning these changes, please contact our Spectrum Licensing team either via the Webform, or by calling 0300 123 1000 and requesting option 6 - 'other'.