



Consultation on the licensing of spectrum in the 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2.6 GHz and 3.4 GHz bands **Response by the Radio Society of Great Britain**

January 2018

Introduction

This response to the IoM Communications Commission consultation document is from the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB, www.rsgb.org) on behalf of its members and the wider Amateur Radio community in the UK. There are around two hundred amateur radio licence holders in the IoM. They operate as individuals and in a variety of special interest groups, including the UK Microwave Group (UKuG), AMSAT-UK (satellite operation) and the British Amateur Television Club (BATC). They have a particular interest in the 3.4 GHz band.

The RSGB is recognised as one of the leading organisations in the world in the field of amateur radio. It collaborates with its fellow national societies via the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) through IARU Region 1 (www.iaru-r1.org).

Amateur radio is a science-based technical hobby enjoyed by over three million people worldwide. From a statutory point of view, it is fully recognised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as a Service and is listed in the ITU Radio Regulations as the Amateur Service and the Amateur Satellite Service.

Amateur radio is a hobby that promotes experimentation and innovation in radio techniques and propagation. The 3.4 GHz amateur band is home to a significant and growing amount of innovation which should be allowed to prosper and not suffer from harmful interference.

Comments

The RSGB particularly notes the request from BlueWave for spectrum in the 3.4 GHz band and the proposal from the Commission to assign 30 MHz of spectrum in the range 3410-3440 MHz.

The UK amateur licence covers the range 3400-3410 MHz adjacent to the proposed BlueWave assignment spectrum. As there is no guard frequency, out of band emissions from systems operating in the proposed BlueWave spectrum will spill over into the amateur spectrum. Amateur operators participate in a number of radio communication activities that require reception of very weak signals from distant terrestrial and space-borne sources; and these emissions above 3410 MHz will be detectable by amateur stations as in-band interference.

The RSGB has a key interest in maintaining the quality of the spectrum for amateur applications and wishes to be kept informed of these developments.