



ETCC Spectrum Forum Report

Summary

2018 has been a year of changeover for ETCC with John McCullagh, G14BWM retiring from the chair and Andrew Barrett, G8DOR stepping in.

We have attended two meetings with Ofcom during the year and seen encouraging progress in some areas.

Digital Voice applications have been on the rise and have placed additional demands on spectrum, which can be challenging. The different digital modes and linking-systems can put pressure on channel availability, but compromise has been possible in most cases.

The arrival of GDPR has required some changes to the processing of personal data for NoV holders and any nominated helpers. Special thanks to Colin Dalziel, GM8LBC for updating the website forms to cope with this.

Main points

- ETCC has processed more than 500 Notices of Variation in the past 12 months.
- Ofcom has modified its processes for seeking Primary User approval, to presumed consent on a "No protection, no interference" basis, if there is no response in a reasonable time.
- The revised online application system has been adapted to cope with GDPR and other minor Ofcom changes, and is proving straightforward and effective in use.
- Some additional 70cm channels have been identified which should allow easier co-siting of repeaters using different modes.
- A number of long delayed applications in 23cm and above, have been cleared in recent months, thanks to a change in Ofcom processes with Primary Users.

My thanks to all the regional and specialist managers for handling all the applications in their areas, and assisting new applicants to use the system.

Andrew Barrett. G8DOR
ETCC Chairman