

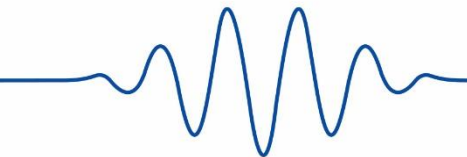
2019 Spectrum Forum Topics

November 2019



Radio Society of Great Britain

Advancing amateur radio since 1913



2019 Spectrum Forum Topics

- 2020 IARU Region-1 Conference
- 5 MHz – Unfinished business
- Ofcom Callsign policy
- Ofcom Licence revalidation
- AoB – next meeting, band plans tc



IARU Region-1 2020 Conference

- October 2020 in Novi Sad – overlaps RSGB Convention
- Deadlines require inputs by 10th July 2020:-
- **Standard matters** (C3-General, C4-HF, C5-VHF-Microwave, C7-EMC)
- **Survey** of Member Socs
- **Workshop topics:** *Papers on your successes (and failures) in making improvements in the four areas identified previously:*
 - a. Growth – in amateur radio numbers and in your society membership,*
 - b. The relationship with spectrum regulators in your country*
 - c. Having an inspiring modern vision of what amateur radio is*
 - d. The changing role of your Society – what do you see as your role going forward and what steps have you taken to move in this direction?*

WRC-15 – 5MHz = Unfinished Business

- **WRC-15** – 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz – 15W in Region-1
- **UK today** – More/different at 100 W... (but other licence limitations)

5 MHz (60m)	Available Width	UK Usage
5258.5 - 5264.0 kHz	5.5 kHz	5262 kHz - CW QRP Centre of Activity
5276.0 - 5284.0	8 kHz	5278.5 kHz - may be used for UK emergency comms traffic
5288.5 - 5292.0	3.5 kHz	Beacons on 5290 kHz (Note-2)
5298.0 - 5307.0	9 kHz	
5313.0 - 5323.0	10 kHz	5317 kHz - AM 6kHz max. bandwidth
5333.0 - 5338.0	5 kHz	
5354.0 - 5358.0	4 kHz	Within WRC-15 Band
5362.0 - 5374.5	12.5 kHz	Partly within WRC-15 band, WSPR
5378.0 - 5382.0	4 kHz	
5395.0 - 5401.5	6.5 kHz	
5403.5 - 5406.5	3 kHz	

- Gaps vs WRC-15 at: 5351.5 - 5354 and 5358 - 5362 kHz
- Previous gap-filler request via Ofcom refused by PU
- Try again in 2020. Lower bandlets most likely to be reviewed first

Ofcom – Callsign Policy

- **New Full (or Club) Licence** may request a call sign with only two trailing letters, using any valid Full Licence prefix.
- Must be requested on a paper application form. This applies only to applications for new licences.
- Ofcom policy that a station may change its existing callsign only in exceptional circumstances remains unchanged.

Source: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/manage-your-licence/radiocommunication-licences/amateur-radio/amateur-radio-info>

- Effectively Ofcom see this as a progression incentive as the number of new Fulls has been quite low
- **Note:**
Callsigns with two trailing letters are not available for Foundation and Intermediate stations. These stations must have a callsign with three trailing letters (M7, 2E0 etc) - apart from a few issued in error

Ofcom – Licence Validation & Callsigns

- Ofcom requires licences to be revalidated every 5 years. A notable date is April 2020 – 5 years since re-issue from the last review
- Note a recent change that **licence for life** ≠ **callsign for life**
- If not valid for 2years – your callsigns could become available to others!
- Fundamentally the validation levels are not good enough
- Stats can also be clouded by Silent Keys etc (~1500 / year)
- Real answer has to be to drive up levels of validation, data quality

Major campaign needed (which may have other benefits)

- By various channels (Regional/OAS), clubs, social media etc, etc
- Sustain effort thru the year to enhance result as many thousands needed
- Alter ethos and facilitate annual reminders, online Ofcom portal use

- 2020 Meeting date
 - Options: Saturday Oct-26, Nov-7, Nov-21
- 2020 Band Plans
 - mainly IARU-R1 Vienna changes in VHF/UHF
 - inputs asap over next week or so in time for RadCom
- SIG Web pages - any more updates ?
<https://rsgb.org/main/clubs/special-interest-groups/>