

Reference: 01475507

Zach Westbrook
Information Rights Advisor
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

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Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning historic data with respect to revocations of licences. Your request was received on 1 July 2022 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request

I wonder if your team could help my data gathering please? It is UK based but any data associated internationally would help.

The questions I am trying to fulfil are set out below, it's an extract from a bigger document that I C&P into the email, apologies if it appears blunt.

Historic data with respect to revocations of licences in UK and other comparable countries

** a) Overview of revocations in UK*

** Which bands?*

** What were they used for?*

** Who was affected?*

** Why was this done?*

** Were any objections made?*

** How were these dealt with?*

** b) Any level of overview of revocations elsewhere*

** Focus on European countries*

** Which bands?*

** What were they used for?*

** Who was affected?*

** Why was this done?*

** Were any objections made?*

** How were these dealt with?*

** My suggestions:*

2. How 40 GHz is being used

- * How are other EU countries using or planning to use 40 GHz?
- * What is the likely schedule for the award of 40 GHz in other countries?
- * How soon is this band likely to be needed for 5G services?
- * How much use is being made of existing 5G mmWave spectrum, particularly the 26 GHz pioneer band?
- * Is there likely to be a shortage of 5G mmWave spectrum in the short to medium-term?

Our response

Given you mentioned both specific bands (i.e. the “40 GHz” and “26 GHz” bands) and “bands” more generally, we have interpreted your requests as referring to the revocation of wireless telegraphy licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (for brevity, “spectrum licences”).

We do not hold a register of revocations of spectrum licences, noting that Ofcom may revoke spectrum licences for different reasons which include for spectrum management reasons, to comply with a direction from the Secretary of State, and if there has been a breach of the terms of the licence. Please see section 11 of Ofcom’s [Wireless Telegraphy Act Licensing Policy Manual](#) for further information on the revocation of spectrum licences.

You may also find it helpful to look at [our website](#), including searching past [consultations and statements](#). Some recent examples of revocation of spectrum licences and clearance of bands include the 1.4 GHz band (see [point-to-point fixed links](#)), the 3.6-3.8 GHz band (see [Improving consumer access to mobile services at 3.6 GHz to 3.8 GHz](#)), and the 700 MHz band (see [700 MHz clearance programme](#)).

We also do not hold an overview of other countries’ revocations of spectrum licences or international developments in relation to the 40 GHz band. However, we are aware that there are several services online that track international spectrum developments which may provide some of this information. We also note there is a high level overview of the current status of the mmWave market in section 2 of our consultation [Enabling mmWave spectrum for new uses](#), published on 9 May, including international developments (see 2.14-2.20 for an overview of the 40 GHz band, and from 2.38 on potential demand and use cases for mmWave spectrum).

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any further queries, then please send them to information.requests@ofcom.org.uk quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Zach Westbrook

If you are unhappy with the response you have received in relation to your request for information and/or consider that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you ask us for an internal review of our decision, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom.

The following outcomes are possible:

- the original decision is upheld; or
- the original decision is reversed or modified.

Timing

If you wish to exercise your right to an internal review **you should contact us within two months of the date of this letter**. There is no statutory deadline for responding to internal reviews and it will depend upon the complexity of the case. However, we aim to conclude all such reviews within 20 working days, and up to 40 working days in exceptional cases. We will keep you informed of the progress of any such review. If you wish to request an internal review, you should contact information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Further information about this, and the internal review process can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office [here](#). Alternatively, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF