

Reference: 1581382

Information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

10 April 2023

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about UAS mobile network study.

We received this request on 13 March 2023 and have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request

You asked: *Please can you provide a copy of the study that is eluded to in the below document: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/251903/ofw605.pdf<https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ofcom.org.uk%2F_data%2Fassets%2Fpdf_file%2F0020%2F251903%2Fofw605.pdf&data=05%7C01%7Cinformation.requests%40ofcom.org.uk%7C502ebf6d4e1a4887edf208db23c3e206%7C0af648de310c40688ae4f9418bae24cc%7C0%7C1%7C638143096438220174%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=J6A0vAysMe1u6lrxmClFDuD5UM1CbYBJhH8VOZZo094%3D&reserved=0>*

Written permission from the mobile network operator

1. 3.7 Studies have shown that the airborne use of a UE can cause quality of service impacts on the host mobile network. To ensure that this potential problem can be managed by the impacted network, the airborne use of any UE is only permitted with the express written permission of the host MNO(s). In the case of a drone operator seeking to use connectivity provided by a Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO)1 written permission must be obtained from the MNO whose physical network is to be used by the device while airborne."

Our response

Details of the main studies are listed in our consultation document:

https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0035/238697/drone-condoc.pdf

Below are links to all studies and European Decisions.

- ECC Report 309 <https://docdb.cept.org/download/1411>
- CEPT Report 48 <https://docdb.cept.org/download/75>
- CEPT Report 81 <https://docdb.cept.org/download/3531>
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/2324 of 23 November 2022 amending Decision 2008/294/EC, to include additional access technologies and measures for the operation of mobile communications services on aircraft \(MCA services\) in the Union](#)
- [Commission Decision 2013/654/EU amending DEC 2008/294/EC to incl add access technologies and bands for MCA services](#)
- [Commission Decision 2008/294/EC on harmonised conditions of spectrum use for the operation of MCA services](#)
- [CEPT Report 16 Mobile Communication Services on board aircraft \(MCA\)](#)
- [ECC Report 93 Compatibility between GSM equipment on board aircraft and terrestrial networks](#)
- [ECC/DEC/\(06\)07 The harmonised use of airborne GSM and LTE systems in the frequency bands 1710-1785 and 1805-1880 MHz, and airborne UMTS systems in the frequency bands 1920-1980 MHz and 2110-2170 MHz](#)
- [EN 302 480 GSM onboard aircraft system](#)
- [ECC Report 187 Compatibility study between mobile communication services on board aircraft \(MCA\) and ground-based systems](#)
- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2016/2317 of 16 December 2016 amending Decision 2008/294/EC and Implementing Decision 2013/654/EU, in order to simplify the operation of mobile communications on board aircraft \(MCA services\) in the Union](#)

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

Information requests

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