

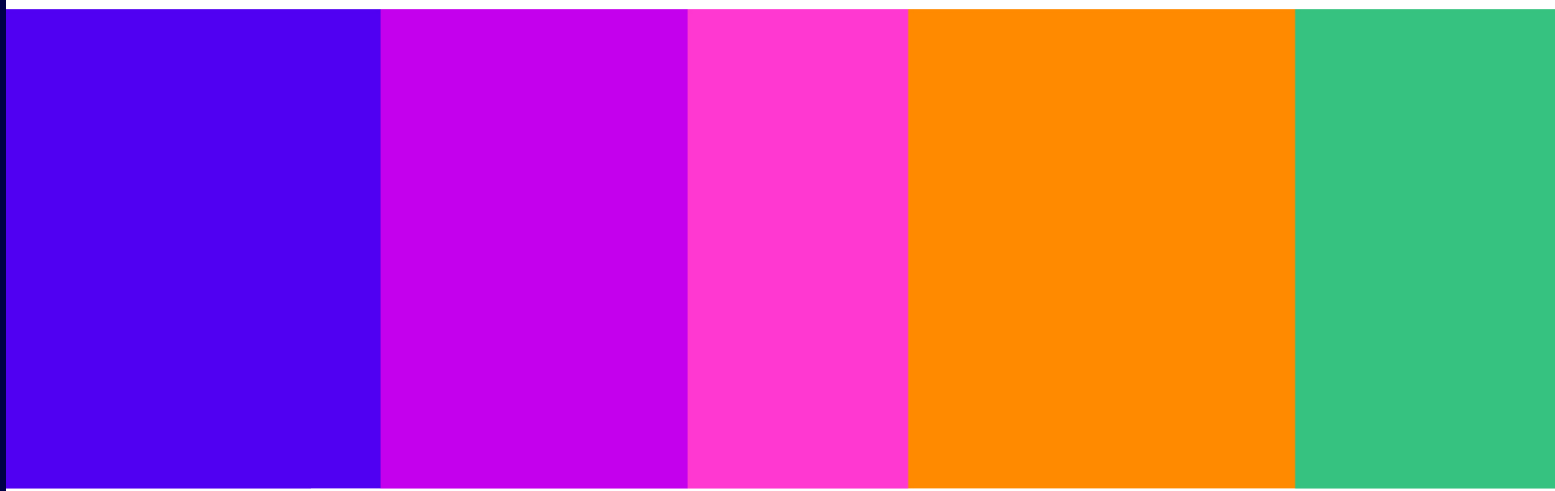
Mobile terminal licence exemption regulations update

Notice of proposals to make Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption)(Amendment) Regulations 2025

Consultation

Published 28 October 2025

Closing date for responses: 28 November 2025



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1. Overview

- 1.1 Ofcom is consulting on a proposal to exempt certain mobile terminal equipment from licensing requirements under section 8 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (the “WT Act”). The proposed updates to our exemption regulations would apply to mobile terminal devices—such as smartphones, tablets, and wearable technology—that operate within harmonised frequency bands and comply with established technical standards.
- 1.2 One of Ofcom's roles is to manage the radio spectrum so as to ensure that it is used in the most efficient and effective way for the benefit of UK citizens and consumers. Our statutory duties in this area are set out in the WT Act and the Communications Act 2003. These include having regard for availability and demand for spectrum, its efficient and economic use. The WT Act empowers us, amongst other things, to authorise the use of the radio spectrum.
- 1.3 We do this to ensure that the radio spectrum is used efficiently and without harmful interference between different users. However, not all wireless devices require a licence and under section 8(4) of the WT Act Ofcom has a duty to create regulations that exempt specific types of equipment from the need to hold such a licence if certain conditions are met. Ofcom also has a general power to allow the licence exempt use of other wireless devices where it considers it appropriate to do so.
- 1.4 As a result of a number of policy decisions we have made, we are proposing to modify our existing licence exemption regulations. This document consults on draft regulations to do this, referred to as the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (the “Proposed Regulations”). The Proposed Regulations would amend some elements of the existing licence exemption regulations.
- 1.5 Mobile terminal devices are typically used by consumers and rely on licensed mobile networks for connectivity. These devices are controlled by the network and as such, they normally do not pose a material risk of harmful interference or inefficient spectrum use.

What we are proposing – in brief

We are giving notice now (as required under section 122 of the WT Act) of Ofcom’s proposal to make The Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) Regulations 2025. These would:

- Amend the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2003 to cover:
 - the 700 MHz, 2.3 GHz, 3.8-4.2GHz, 26 GHz and 40 GHz bands;
 - 5G technology across all mobile frequency bands; and
 - Make some editorial amendments to remove or update out of date provisions.

This is a statutory consultation. Ofcom invites comments on whether the Proposed Regulations correctly implement Ofcom’s policy decisions, as well as any other comments that stakeholders might have on the Proposed Regulations. Any comments should be provided by 5pm on 28 November 2025.

This overview is a simplified summary only. The proposals we are consulting on and our reasoning are set out in the full document.

2. Background

What is licence exemption?

- 2.1 Licence exemption allows certain wireless devices or activities to operate and use spectrum without needing a specific WT Act licence. This is typically applied to low-power equipment that is unlikely to cause interference to other services.
- 2.2 Licence exemption helps to reduce the regulatory burden on consumers and facilitate the widespread use of low-power technologies. During a typical day most people in the UK already interact with wireless telegraphy equipment that has been exempted from the need to hold a WT Act licence such as mobile phones, WiFi routers, car key-fobs, baby monitors and wireless doorbells. This document sets out for consultation changes to regulations that will implement a number of decisions taken by Ofcom in relation to mobile terminals.

Relevant legal framework

- 2.3 Ofcom is responsible for authorising and managing use of the radio spectrum in the UK. This is a limited and valuable resource, and one of our main duties is to secure its optimal use. We achieve this by granting wireless telegraphy licences under the WT Act or by making statutory regulations exempting users of particular equipment from the requirement to hold such a licence.
- 2.4 Under section 8 (1) of the WT Act, it is unlawful to establish or use a wireless telegraphy station or install or use wireless telegraphy apparatus except under and in accordance with a wireless telegraphy licence granted under the WT Act.
- 2.5 However, under section 8 (3) of that Act, Ofcom may make regulations exempting from the licensing requirements under section 8 (1) the establishment, installation or use of wireless telegraphy stations or wireless telegraphy apparatus of such classes or description as may be specified in the regulations, either absolutely or subject to such terms, provisions and limitations as may be specified.
- 2.6 Under section 8(4) of the WT Act, Ofcom must make regulations to exempt equipment if its installation or use meets the conditions under section 8(5) of the WT Act and is not likely to:
- involve undue interference with wireless telegraphy;
 - have an adverse effect on technical quality of service;
 - lead to inefficient use of the part of the electromagnetic spectrum available for wireless telegraphy;
 - inhibit the development of effective arrangements for the sharing of frequencies;
 - endanger safety of life;
 - prejudice the promotion of social, regional or territorial cohesion; or
 - prejudice the promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity and media pluralism.
- 2.7 In accordance with the requirements of section 8(3B) of the WT Act, the terms, provisions and limitations specified in the regulations must be:

- objectively justifiable in relation to the wireless telegraphy stations or wireless telegraphy apparatus to which they relate;
- not such as to discriminate unduly against particular persons or against a particular description of persons;
- proportionate to what they are intended to achieve; and
- transparent in relation to what they are intended to achieve.

Statutory notice

- 2.8 This Section gives formal notice under section 122 of the WT Act of our proposal to make the Proposed Regulations. The general effect of the Proposed Regulations is described below, and further detail is also provided in this section. A draft of the Proposed Regulations is set out in Annex 1 of this document. We welcome comments on the substance and drafting. This consultation will be open for comments until 5pm on 28 November 2025.
- 2.9 Before making any regulations, we are required by section 122(4) of the WT Act to give notice of our proposal to do so. Under section 122(5), the notice must state that Ofcom proposes to make the regulations in question, set out their general effect, specify an address from which a copy of the proposed regulations or order may be obtained, and specify a time before which any representations with respect to the proposal must be made to Ofcom. That time must be no earlier than the end of the period of 30 days, beginning with the day after the latest day on which the notice is given or published (section 122(6) WT Act).

Changes the Proposed Regulations would implement

- 2.10 Mobile terminal equipment refers to end-user devices that connect to public mobile networks.¹ These devices typically operate in frequency bands that are licensed to mobile network operators, and they rely on network infrastructure (e.g. base stations) for access to services. The terminal is normally authenticated by the network via the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM card). This contains a unique identifier called the [International Mobile Subscriber Identity \(IMSI\)](#) and an authentication key that the network uses to verify the users account and control access to the networks services. Examples of terminals include:
- Smartphones and feature phones;
 - Tablets with cellular connectivity;
 - Wearable devices with embedded mobile modules (e.g. smartwatches); and
 - Embedded modules in consumer electronics that support mobile data.
- 2.11 Such equipment is designed to operate within the parameters of the licensed network and is subject to conformity assessment under the Radio Equipment Regulations 2017. Devices must carry the UKCA or CE mark and meet essential requirements relating to health and safety, electromagnetic compatibility, and efficient use of the radio spectrum.

¹ Where these devices connect under WiFi or Bluetooth this is already covered by the terms of a separate licence exemption.

- 2.12 The Proposed Regulations would look to amend the existing regulations that licence exempt most mobile terminals, the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2003 (the "2003 Regulations").

New exemptions

New mobile frequency bands

- 2.13 Since the 2003 Regulations were last updated, Ofcom has made available a number of additional frequency bands for mobile use.
- 2.14 In the following documents we have consulted and made decisions on the policies behind the new licence exemptions that the Proposed Regulations would implement (full impact assessments have been undertaken where relevant and appropriate):
- Our March 2020 [statement](#) on the Award of the 700 MHz and 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum bands
 - Our September 2022 [decision](#) to update the technical conditions of Vodafone's and Telefónica's mobile licences to enable the deployment of newer technologies including 5G;
 - Our September 2023 [decision](#) to extend our Shared Access framework to the 26 GHz and 40 GHz;
 - Our September 2023 [statement](#) on Enabling mmWave spectrum for new uses;
 - Our Enhancing the Shared Access framework [statement](#) published December 2024.
- For this reason, we are proposing to update the 2003 Regulations to include the following frequency bands:
- 703-733 MHz (700 MHz) – Spectrum Access licences;
 - 2320-2340 MHz, 2390-2400 MHz (2.3 GHz) and 3.8-4.2 GHz - Shared Access licences;
 - 24.45-27.5 GHz (26 GHz) and 40.5-43.5 GHz (40 GHz) - Shared Access and Spectrum Access licences.

5G Technology

As part of our general update to the 2003 Regulations we are also amending the wording to include 5G New Radio (5G) technology by referencing this technology in the Proposed Regulations alongside the frequency bands it relates to.

Editorial updates

- 2.15 As we are amending the 2003 Regulations, we have also taken this opportunity to make some editorial amendments. These are either to update out of date references or remove conditions that are no longer necessary due to changes made by previous amendments to the 2003 Regulations. These amendments will not impact on existing licence exemptions.

3. General effect

- 3.1 In this section, we set out the general effects of the Proposed Regulations as required by section 122(5)(b) of the WT Act (including, where relevant, the draft Interface Requirements to which the Proposed Regulations refer).

Extent of application

- 3.2 The Proposed Regulations would extend to (i) the United Kingdom; and (ii) the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, subject to their agreement.

General effect

- 3.3 Regulation 1 sets out the name of the Proposed Regulations and the date when the Proposed Regulations would come into force.
- 3.4 Regulation 2(2) updates the reference to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio Regulations from the 2004 to the 2024 edition.
- 3.5 As Schedule 6 has been revoked from the 2003 Regulations, Regulation 2(3) removes the reference in regulation 5 that allowed certain non-terrestrial use being permitted if set out in Schedule 6.
- 3.6 Regulation 2(4)(a) inserts a number of new frequency bands into the Long term evolution radiotelephones (LTE) category. LTE is used to provide 4G mobile services.
- 3.7 Regulation 2(4)(b) inserts a new equipment category of 5G new radio radiotelephones and associated frequencies into the 2003 Regulations. These are used to provide 5G services.
- 3.8 Regulation 2(4)(c) removes two out of date mobile terminal exemptions for Fixed Wireless Access in 3.4-3.8 GHz and the Airwave Network that was set up in 2012 specifically for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 3.9 Regulation 2(5) inserts the appropriate Interface Requirement documents for the new frequency bands and technology.

Entry into force of the Proposed Regulations

- 3.10 The final regulations will be made after Ofcom has concluded its consultation process, taking into consideration any representations received. We intend to bring the Proposed Regulations into force within a reasonable period after the publication of our final statement in January 2026.

Comments and representations

- 3.11 We are inviting comments on whether the Proposed Regulations correctly implement the policy decisions summarised in Section 2.
- 3.12 Subject to our consideration of responses, we intend to bring the Proposed Regulations into force within a reasonable period after making them.

Question 1: Do you have any comments on our drafting of the Proposed Regulations? Please give reasons supported by evidence for your views.

Question 2: Do you have any comments relating to any other matter in this Notice?

3.13 Responses are invited by 5pm on 28 November 2025.

A1. Draft Proposed Regulations

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2025 No.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) Regulations 2025

Made - - - -

Coming into force

The Office of Communications (“OFCOM”), in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 8(3) and 122(7) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (“the Act”)⁽²⁾, make the following Regulations.

Before making these Regulations, OFCOM have given notice of their proposal to do so in accordance with section 122(4)(a) of the Act, published notice of their proposal in accordance with section 122(4)(b) of the Act, and have considered the representations made to them before the time specified in the notice in accordance with section 122(4)(c) of the Act.

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 and shall come into force on XXXX 2025.

Amendment of the Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2003

2.—(1) The Wireless Telegraphy (Exemption) Regulations 2003⁽³⁾ are amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 3 (interpretation), in paragraph 1, in the definition of “the Radio Regulations”, for “the 2004 edition” substitute “the 2024 edition”.

(3) In regulation 5 (terms, provisions and limitations), in paragraph 1(b), omit “, unless non-terrestrial use is permitted under Part III of Schedule 6”.

(4) In Schedule 3, Part III, paragraph 3—

(a) in sub-paragraph (d) (Long term evolution radiotelephones (LTE)), after the entry “3400-3800 MHz” in the list of frequency bands, insert the following entries—

“— 703-733 MHz

— 2320-2340 MHz

— 2390-2400 MHz

⁽²⁾ 2006 c.36. Section 8(3) and section 122(7) were extended to the Bailiwick of Guernsey by article 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy (Guernsey) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/3325); to the Bailiwick of Jersey by article 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy (Jersey) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/3324); and to the Isle of Man by article 2 of the Wireless Telegraphy (Isle of Man) Order 2007 (S.I. 2007/278).

⁽³⁾ S.I. 2003/74 as amended by S.I. 2003/2155, S.I. 2005/3481, S.I. 2006/2994, S.I. 2008/236, S.I. 2008/2426, S.I. 2010/2512, S.I. 2011/2950, S.I. 2013/1254, S.I. 2016/486 and S.I. 2016/1075.

— 3.8-4.2 GHz

— 24.45-27.5 GHz”;

(b) after sub-paragraph (e) (Worldwide interoperability for microwave access radiotelephones (WiMax)) insert—

“(ff) 5G new radio radiotelephones

—703-733 MHz

—791-821 MHz

—832-862 MHz

—880-915 MHz

—925-960 MHz

—1710-1785 MHz

—1805-1880 MHz

—1920-1980 MHz

—2110-2170 MHz

—2320-2340 MHz

—2350-2400 MHz

—2500-2690 MHz

—3400-3800 MHz

—3800-4200 MHz

—24.45-27.5 GHz

—40.5-43.5 GHz”;

(c) omit sub-paragraphs (f) and (g).

(5) In Schedule 3, Part IV (Interface Requirement) after the entry “IR 2097—UK Interface Requirement 2098 Terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services in the 3.4 to 3.8 GHz band, published by the Office of Communications in February 2016” insert the following entries—

“—IR 2107 - UK Interface Requirement 2107 Terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services in the 700 MHz band, published by the Office of Communications in March 2021.

—IR 2103 - UK Interface Requirement 2103 Shared Access Low Power, published by the Office of Communications in January 2025.

—IR 2104 - UK Interface Requirement 2104 Shared Access Medium Power, published by the Office of Communications in January 2025.

—IR 2110 - UK Interface Requirement 2110 Terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services in the 26 GHz band in high density areas, published by the Office of Communications in April 2025.”

XXXX 2025

Name
Group Director, Spectrum Group
For and on behalf of the Office of Communications

A2. Impact assessments

Impact assessment

- A2.1 Section 7 of the Communications Act 2003 requires us to carry out and publish an assessment of the likely impact of implementing a proposal which would be likely to have a significant impact on businesses or the general public, or when there is a major change in Ofcom's activities.
- A2.2 More generally, impact assessments form part of good policy making and we therefore expect to carry them out in relation to a large majority of our proposals. We use impact assessments to help us understand and assess the potential impact of our policy decisions before we make them. They also help us explain the policy decisions we have decided to take and why we consider those decisions best fulfil our applicable duties and objectives in the least intrusive way. Our [Impact Assessment Guidance](#) sets out our general approach to how we assess and present the impact of our proposed decisions.
- A2.3 In preparing this document, we have considered the citizen and consumer interests relating to licence-exempt equipment. We have also considered the impact on service providers, manufacturers and users of devices and applications and we believe the benefits that we have identified will promote economic growth. We have taken into account our statutory duties, including our statutory duties in section 3⁴ and section 6 of the WT Act.

Proposal, purpose and intended effect

- A2.4 This Notice sets out proposals to make the Proposed Regulations which would amend the 2003 Regulations. The Proposed Regulations would make changes for mobile terminal equipment.
- A2.5 Mobile terminal equipment refers to end-user devices that connect to public mobile networks. These devices typically operate in frequency bands that are licensed to mobile network operators, and they rely on network infrastructure (e.g. base stations) for access to services. The network controls the mobile terminal so the risk of interference is minimised.
- A2.6 In the following documents we have consulted and made decisions on the policies behind the new licence exemptions that the Proposed Regulations would implement (full impact assessments have been undertaken where relevant and appropriate):
- Our March 2020 [statement](#) on the Award of the 700 MHz and 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum bands
 - Our September 2022 [decision](#) to update the technical conditions of Vodafone's and Telefónica's mobile licences to enable the deployment of newer technologies including 5G;
 - Our September 2023 [decision](#) to extend our Shared Access framework to the 26 GHz and 40 GHz;
 - Our September 2023 [statement](#) on Enabling mmWave spectrum for new uses;

⁴ In particular, but not exclusively, Ofcom's duty to have regard to the extent to which spectrum is available for use or further use for wireless telegraphy; and Ofcom's duty to have regard to the desirability of promoting the efficient management and use of spectrum; the economic and other benefits that may arise from the use of wireless telegraphy and the development of innovative services.

- Our Enhancing the Shared Access framework [statement](#) published December 2024.
- 3.14 Therefore, this Regulatory Impact Assessment should be read in conjunction with the above documents.
- A2.7 We consider that our proposals regarding licence exemption, taken as a whole, will help us to meet our statutory duties in relation to the management of spectrum and our more general duties to further the interests of citizens and consumers. We note, in this regard, that the Proposed Regulations would:
- support the introduction of new and innovative technologies that will be of benefit to consumers and citizens in general; and
 - expand the use of radio equipment on a licence-exempt basis, which reduces the regulatory and administrative burden on our stakeholders and helps to secure the optimal use of spectrum.

Costs to Ofcom

- A2.8 There are one-off administrative costs to Ofcom associated with making Statutory Instruments. We consider these administrative costs to be small relative to the potential benefits of making the Proposed Regulations. Without them the policy changes that Ofcom has consulted on and decided upon, would not be given full effect in regulations. Stakeholders would not benefit from being able to consult the Proposed Regulations to see the appropriate authorisation for relevant equipment. This could result in uncertainty and unnecessary costs for stakeholders.

Cost to business, including small business and the voluntary sector

- A2.9 Ofcom’s decision to make licence exemption regulations can have a range of implications for businesses, including small enterprises and organisations in the voluntary sector. While licence exemption typically removes the need for individual licensing and associated fees, the broader impact on stakeholders warrants careful consideration.
- A2.10 Exemption normally removes direct licence fees and simplifies regulatory obligations, particularly beneficial for SMEs with limited legal or regulatory capacity. Small businesses often lack dedicated regulatory teams, so exemption can significantly reduce overheads and improve operational agility. By facilitating easier access to spectrum for low-power devices, exemption can encourage innovation and reduce barriers to entry for new services and products. In this case we do not expect that there would be any additional costs to business.

Equality Impact Assessment

- A2.11 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the “2010 Act”) imposes a duty on Ofcom, when carrying out its functions, to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and other prohibited conduct related to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. The 2010 Act also requires Ofcom to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share specified protected characteristics and persons who do not.

- A2.12 Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (the “1998 Act”) also imposes a duty on Ofcom, when carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations across a range of categories outlined in the 1998 Act.
- A2.13 To help us comply with our duties under the 2010 Act and the 1998 Act, we assess the impact of our proposals on persons sharing protected characteristics and in particular whether they may discriminate against such persons or impact on equality of opportunity or good relations.
- A2.14 We have given careful consideration to whether our proposed changes would have a particular impact on persons sharing protected characteristics (broadly including race, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership and religion or belief in the UK and also dependents and political opinion in Northern Ireland), and in particular whether they may discriminate against such persons or impact on equality of opportunity or good relations.
- A2.15 When thinking about equality we think more broadly than persons that share protected characteristics identified in equalities legislation and think about potential impacts on various groups of persons (see paragraph 4.7 of our [impact assessment guidance](#)).
- A2.16 In particular, section 3(4) of the Communications Act 2003 also requires us to have regard to the needs and interests of specific groups of persons when performing our duties, as appear to us to be relevant in the circumstances. These include:
- a) the vulnerability of children and of others whose circumstances appear to us to put them in need of special protection;
 - b) the needs of persons with disabilities, older persons and persons on low incomes; and
 - c) the different interests of persons in the different parts of the UK, of the different ethnic communities within the UK and of persons living in rural and in urban areas.
- A2.17 We do not consider that our proposals will affect any specific groups of persons (including persons that share protected characteristics under the 2010 Act or the 1998 Act) differently to the general population.
- A2.18 In our previous consultations we carefully considered whether our proposals would have had a particular impact on persons sharing protected characteristics, and in particular whether they may discriminate against such persons or impact on equality of opportunity or good relations. We have also had regard to the matters in section 3(4) of the Communications Act 2003.
- A2.19 We did not consider that our proposals on updating the licence exemption regulations would affect any specific groups of persons differently to the general population.
- A2.20 We have not carried out separate equality impact assessments in relation to the additional equality groups in Northern Ireland: religious belief, political opinion and dependents. This is because we anticipate that our decision on updating the licence exemption regulations would not have a differential impact in Northern Ireland compared to consumers in general.

Welsh language

- A2.21 Ofcom is required to take Welsh language considerations into account when formulating, reviewing or revising policies which are relevant to Wales (including proposals which are not targeted at Wales specifically but are of interest across the UK).
- A2.22 In our previous statements we did not consider that our proposals would have any impact on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language or treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. We also did not think there are ways in which our decision on updating the licence exemption regulations for mobile terminals could be formulated so as to have, or increase, a positive impact, or not have adverse effects or decrease any adverse effects. This is because our proposals relate to removing the requirement to hold a licence for certain mobile terminals across the UK.

Conclusion

- A2.23 Having assessed the impact of making the Proposed Regulations, Ofcom considers that the benefits of making the Proposed Regulations justify the associated costs.

A3. Responding to this consultation

How to respond

- A3.1 Ofcom would like to receive views and comments on the issues raised in this document, by 5pm on 28 November 2025.
- A3.2 You can download a response form [here](#). You can return this by email or post to the address provided in the response form.
- A3.3 If your response is a large file, or has supporting charts, tables or other data, please email it to regulations@ofcom.org.uk, as an attachment in Microsoft Word format, together with the cover sheet.
- A3.4 Responses may alternatively be posted to the address below, marked with the title of the consultation:
- Space Spectrum & Authorisation Policy
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
- A3.5 We welcome responses in formats other than print, for example an audio recording or a British Sign Language video. To respond in BSL:
- > send us a recording of you signing your response. This should be no longer than 5 minutes. Suitable file formats are DVDs, wmv or QuickTime files; or
 - > upload a video of you signing your response directly to YouTube (or another hosting site) and send us the link.
- A3.6 We will publish a transcript of any audio or video responses we receive (unless your response is confidential)
- A3.7 We do not need a paper copy of your response as well as an electronic version. We will acknowledge receipt of a response submitted to us by email.
- A3.8 You do not have to answer all the questions in the consultation if you do not have a view; a short response on just one point is fine. We also welcome joint responses.
- A3.9 It would be helpful if your response could include direct answers to the questions asked in the consultation document. The questions are listed at Annex 6. It would also help if you could explain why you hold your views, and what you think the effect of Ofcom's proposals would be.
- A3.10 If you want to discuss the issues and questions raised in this consultation, please contact regulations@ofcom.org.uk.

Confidentiality

- A3.11 Consultations are more effective if we publish the responses before the consultation period closes. This can help people and organisations with limited resources or familiarity with the issues to respond in a more informed way. So, in the interests of transparency and good regulatory practice, and because we believe it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other respondents' views, we usually publish responses on the Ofcom website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period.
- A3.12 If you think your response should be kept confidential, please specify which part(s) this applies to and explain why. Please send any confidential sections as a separate annex. If you want your name, address, other contact details or job title to remain confidential, please provide them only in the cover sheet, so that we don't have to edit your response.
- A3.13 If someone asks us to keep part or all of a response confidential, we will treat this request seriously and try to respect it. But sometimes we will need to publish all responses, including those that are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations.
- A3.14 To fulfil our pre-disclosure duty, we may share a copy of your response with the relevant government department before we publish it on our website.
- A3.15 Please also note that copyright and all other intellectual property in responses will be assumed to be licensed to Ofcom to use. Ofcom's intellectual property rights are explained further in our Terms of Use.

Next steps

- A3.16 Following this consultation period, Ofcom intends to publish a notice confirming the Proposed Regulations in January 2026.
- A3.17 If you wish, you can register to receive mail updates alerting you to new Ofcom publications.

Ofcom's consultation processes

- A3.18 Ofcom aims to make responding to a consultation as easy as possible. For more information, please see our consultation principles in Annex 4.
- A3.19 If you have any comments or suggestions on how we manage our consultations, please email us at consult@ofcom.org.uk. We particularly welcome ideas on how Ofcom could more effectively seek the views of groups or individuals, such as small businesses and residential consumers, who are less likely to give their opinions through a formal consultation.
- A3.20 If you would like to discuss these issues, or Ofcom's consultation processes more generally, please contact the corporation secretary:

Corporation Secretary
Ofcom
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
Email: corporationsecretary@ofcom.org.uk

A4. Ofcom's consultation principles

Ofcom has seven principles that it follows for every public written consultation:

Before the consultation

1. Wherever possible, we will hold informal talks with people and organisations before announcing a big consultation, to find out whether we are thinking along the right lines. If we do not have enough time to do this, we will hold an open meeting to explain our proposals, shortly after announcing the consultation.

During the consultation

2. We will be clear about whom we are consulting, why, on what questions and for how long.
3. We will make the consultation document as short and simple as possible, with an overview of no more than two pages. We will try to make it as easy as possible for people to give us a written response.
4. When setting the length of the consultation period, we will consider the nature of our proposals and their potential impact. We will always make clear the closing date for responses.
5. A person within Ofcom will be in charge of making sure we follow our own guidelines and aim to reach the largest possible number of people and organisations who may be interested in the outcome of our decisions. Ofcom's Consultation Champion is the main person to contact if you have views on the way we run our consultations.
6. If we are not able to follow any of these principles, we will explain why.

After the consultation

7. We think it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other people's views, so we usually publish the responses on our website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. After the consultation we will make our decisions and publish a statement explaining what we are going to do, and why, showing how respondents' views helped to shape these decisions.

A5. Consultation coversheet

Basic details

Consultation title:

To (Ofcom contact):

Name of respondent:

Representing (self or organisation/s):

Address (if not received by email):

Confidentiality

Please tick below what part of your response you consider is confidential, giving your reasons why

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| > Nothing | ☐ |
| > Name/contact details/job title | ☐ |
| > Whole response | ☐ |
| > Organisation | ☐ |
| > Part of the response | ☐ |

If you selected 'Part of the response', please specify which parts:

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation not to be published, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Declaration

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response that Ofcom can publish. However, in supplying this response, I understand that Ofcom may need to publish all responses, including those which are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom aims to publish responses at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. If your response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and you would prefer us to publish your response only once the consultation has ended, please tick here.

Name

Signed (if hard copy)

A6. Consultation questions

Please tell us how you came across about this consultation.

- ☐ Email from Ofcom
- ☐ Saw it on social media
- ☐ Found it on Ofcom's website
- ☐ Found it on another website
- ☐ Heard about it on TV or radio
- ☐ Read about it in a newspaper or magazine
- ☐ Heard about it at an event
- ☐ Somebody told me or shared it with me
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Question 1: Do you have any comments on our drafting of the Proposed Regulations? Please give reasons supported by evidence for your views.

Question 2: Do you have any comments relating to any other matter in this Notice?