

Reference: 01700326

Information Requests  
[information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk)

30 October 2023

### Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning the agreement between OFCOM and RSGB to administer Notices of Variation to Radio Amateurs. Your request was received on 16 October 2023 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

#### Your request

*I notice that the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee (ETCC) provides administrative support to OFCOM for the issuance of Notices of Variation (NoVs) to Radio Amateurs to operate repeaters, gateways and beacons and for access to additional radio bands.*

*Please provide the agreement or agreements between OFCOM and RSGB and/or RSGB ETCC that set out the work done by RSGB ETCC and the rules and processes that they apply to applications for all the types of NoV they handle*

#### Our response

Ofcom does not hold a formal agreement (normally known as a memorandum of understanding) with RSGB that sets out this work.

Ofcom is the regulatory body responsible for granting the Notices of Variation (NoV) to Radio Amateurs. While the ETCC provides technical advice as to whether the repeaters, gateways or beacons would cause undue interference, the ultimate decision on granting the NoV is made by Ofcom.

Regarding “the rules and processes that the RSGB ETCC apply to applications for all the types of NoV that they handle”, Ofcom does hold internal documentation that outlines the procedures involved in NoV applications, which falls within the scope of your request. We have included the process maps from Ofcom’s documentation on the Amateur Beacon and Repeater NoV Application Process. These four process maps, shown in the attached PDF, outline Ofcom and the ETCC’s role in this process.

If you have any further queries, then please send them to [information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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