

Your response

Question	Your response
<p>Question 1: Do you have any comments on Ofcom's proposed Work Plan for 2025/26?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>BEIRG would like to thank Ofcom for the opportunity to comment on its proposed Plan of Work 2025-26.</p> <p>Decisions taken in the near-term regarding potential changes of spectrum use in the 470 – 694 MHz band and the future of TV distribution (Plan of Work Annex 1.2) will have profound long-term consequences for Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE).</p> <p>BEIRG draw attention to our recent presentation to Ofcom of impact analysis which illustrates the severe consequences to PMSE productions that will result from any further loss of access to spectrum in the 470 – 694 MHz band. As DSIT stated in its Spectrum Statement of 2023, ‘regardless of changes to viewing habits, there will be an ongoing requirement for spectrum for PMSE which uses, among other bands, spectrum in the 470-694 MHz band.’¹</p> <p>Audio PMSE’s extensive use of the 470 – 694 MHz band supports a mature global equipment ecosystem and sits at the start of a value chain which underpins a creative sector in the UK which has justifiably been described as a ‘cultural powerhouse’ that punches above its weight. It is a top ten exporter of creative goods and services worldwide, and one of only three net exporters of music in the world². From 2010 to 2019 the creative industries grew more than one and a half times faster than the wider economy and in 2021 they generated £108bn in economic value. In 2021, they employed 2.3 million people, a 49% increase since 2011.³</p> <p>Government is prioritising economic growth and in the context of protecting and nurturing the socio-economic contribution of our sector, we would struggle to put it better than the House of Lords’ Communications and Digital Committee: ‘there is a serious and</p>

¹ [DSIT Spectrum Statement](#) of April 2023

² McKinsey & Company, [‘The Arts in the UK: Seeing the big picture’](#), November 2023

³ DCMS, [Creative Industries Sector Vision](#), June 2023

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	<p>well evidenced business case for the sector to sit at the heart of the UK's future growth plans.⁴</p> <p>BEIRG would like to take this opportunity to thank Ofcom for its constructive engagement on this critical topic and remains available to provide Ofcom with any additional information on the points raised above.</p>

Please complete this form in full and return to planofwork@ofcom.org.uk

⁴ House of Lords' Communications and Digital Committee, '[At risk: our creative future](#)'