

# Consultation: Ofcom's Plan of Work 2022/23

# **Ericsson response**



About Ericsson

Ericsson enables communications service providers to capture the full value of connectivity. The company's portfolio spans Networks, Digital Services, Managed Services, and Emerging Business and is designed to help customers go digital, increase efficiency and find new revenue streams. Ericsson's investments in innovation have delivered the benefits of telephony and mobile broadband to billions of people around the world. The Ericsson stock is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm and on Nasdaq New York. www.ericsson.com

#### Ericsson Feedback on Spectrum demand:

Ericsson welcomes the OFCOM goal to enable wireless services in the broader economy and drive efficiency and support innovation, ensuring spectrum, this invisible, essential, and finite resource is used efficiently. The ambition to support the delivery of high-quality connectivity and innovation is essential to deliver good outcomes for businesses, industries, consumers, and citizens.

The mobile industry alongside GSMA has reviewed spectrum requirements between 2025 and 2030. The conclusion from the GSMA assessment is that an average of 2 GHz of mid-band spectrum is needed to ensure efficient use and to take into consideration all users in a fair and equable manner. [ref: <u>GSMA | 5G Mid-Band Spectrum Needs - Vision 2030 - Spectrum</u>]

#### Exhibit 1: Total mid-band spectrum needs 2025-2030 time frame

	Minimum estimate	Maximum estimate
High income cities	1,260 MHz	3,690 MHz
Upper middle income cities	1,020 MHz	2,870 MHz
Lower middle income cities	1,320 MHz	3,260 MHz

Source: Coleago

## Upper 6 GHz:

It is a critical decision to ensure the most efficient use of the 6GHz spectrum as it represents the largest remaining single block of mid-band spectrum that can be allocated for 5G use cases. Harmonization of the band will enable economies of scale and it is critical to consider indoor industrial use case demands.

When considering options for assigning 6 GHz it is also key to consider the supply and demand of both mobile and RLAN, and where the spectrum allocation will enable the delivery of high-quality connectivity and innovation in the broader economy.

The 2023 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) will play an important role in determining future access to the upper 6 GHz range (6425-7125 MHz). It provides the opportunity to harmonize the band across large parts of the world and help continue the development of the 6 GHz ecosystem.

Additionally, Ericsson recommends the GSMA report that explores the societal benefits that different decisions for the allocation of 6GHz could have on economies and citizens.

[Ref: <u>GSMA| The socioeconomic benefits of the 6 GHz band</u>]

Ref: GSMA | Capacity to Power Innovation 5G in the 6 GHz Band]

## 6G:

Ericsson did not see any specific item in relation to 6G. However, we have noticed a recent consultation on THz in relation to 6G: <u>Unlocking the potential of Terahertz radio spectrum</u> (ofcom.org.uk). Ericsson recommends that regulators consider a wide range of spectrums for 6G. In addition to terahertz, we would recommend the inclusion of the lower ranges, in particular 8-15 GHz. OFCOM could consider exploring 6G as part of the 2022/23 work programme.