



Issue 1

BT's response to the Ofcom consultation document:

**Review of the Spectrum Management Approach in
the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz bands**

(Issued by Ofcom on 21st August 2013)

INTRODUCTION

BT is pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to this consultation.

We broadly support the proposals outlined within the consultation document and agree that there is a perception within the industry that the self-coordinated approach does not offer the certainty that is required for the high availability (99.99-99.999%) applications, specifically in relation to the support of 4G networks.

RESPONSES TO THE INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS IN THE CONSULTATION

Question 1:

Do you have any additional information to provide to that presented in this consultation that you believe Ofcom should consider? If so please provide clearly evidenced views. Are there any other issues that you believe Ofcom should have considered?

BT does not have any additional information for Ofcom to consider.

Question 2a:

Do you agree with our proposals to offer a mixed solution that allows stakeholders to choose between the currently available self coordinated authorisation approach and a new Ofcom coordinated approach for the band

BT agrees with these proposals.

Question 2b:

Do you agree with the segmented band plan with the split of 2 x 2 GHz and 2 x 2.5 GHz for Ofcom coordinated and self coordinated approaches respectively?

BT agrees with these plans.

Question 2c:

Is the guard band size of 250 MHz considered appropriate between the two approaches?

BT considers that the guard band size is appropriate.

Question 3a:

For the Ofcom coordinated part of the band, do you agree with the proposal to make available channels of 500 MHz and 250 MHz (with smaller channels being made available when the standards are completed) and to make these channels available in up to 1 GHz bandwidth in the first instance?

BT agrees with this proposal.

Question 3b:

Is there a requirement for channel sizes greater than 500 MHz in the coordinated block? Please submit evidence to support your view.

At this present time, BT does not believe there is a requirement for channel sizes greater than 500 MHz in the coordinated block. However, with increasing bandwidth demands, a requirement may arise in the future.

Question 4a

Are there any aspects of the current self coordinated licensing and link registration process that could benefit from improvements? Please provide specific information and reasons for how your suggestions would improve the process.

BT has no view on this

Question 4b:

Should Ofcom consider mandating the CEPT channel plan, ECC/REC/(05)07 for the self coordinated block? Explain clearly the reasons to support your view.

BT is keen to encourage the use of standardised channel plans to ensure the most efficient use of spectrum and to ensure that equipment itself is standardised to reduce costs.

Question 4c:

Are the technical parameters shown on the register sufficient to enable self coordination? Should Ofcom consider presenting additional parameters on the register? If so, which parameters and why?

BT supports the technical parameters shown on the register and believes that they should be sufficient for self coordination.