

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Michael

Surname:

Adamson

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Light Sport Flying Club

Email:

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep nothing confidential

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

You may publish my response on receipt

Additional comments:

Question 1: Do you consider that our proposed fee rates for licences in the aeronautical VHF frequencies are appropriate?:

No. Many "ground" to air airfields operate with trained volunteers manning the radio to provide vital information to pilots flying in. Any significant increase in the licence

fee is likely to either be passed on in the form of increased landing fees, which will put aviation out of reach of more of the population, or lead to a reduction in service which will inevitably compromise safety.

Question 2: In devising our revised proposals, have we identified all of the aeronautical uses of VHF communications frequencies which require a distinct approach to fee setting, as set out in tables 5 and 6?:

Yes

Question 3: Do you agree with our proposal not to charge any fees for Fire assignments?:

Yes

Question 4: Do you agree with our proposal to set a £75 fee for licences in any of the sporting frequencies?:

Yes

Question 5: Do you agree with our proposal to set an annual fee of £19,800 per ACARS or VDL assignment, with no variation related to the number of transmitters?:

No comment

Question 6: Do you consider that our proposed approach to phasing in fees for use of the aeronautical VHF communications channels are appropriate? If there are particular reasons why you consider that any user or group of users would need longer phasing-in periods, please provide any supporting evidence for us to consider. Specifically, do you have any evidence for us to consider that would support either of Options 1 and 2 for the highest proposed fee in this sector?:

No. I feel that any significant increase on these ground to air licences is likely to lead to a reduction in the number of airfields using this facility and will inevitably lead to a reduction in safety with an increase in "blind calls" being made to other aircraft. Important information about the runway conditions, wind speed and direction and other essential information is passed on by ground radio stations. It seems short sighted to risk compromising safety by this proposed huge increase in licence fees.

Question 7: Do you have any further quantified information to contribute to the analysis of financial impacts of the proposed fees on particular spectrum users, as set out in Annex 5? We would like to publish all responses, but will respect the confidentiality of any material which is clearly marked as such.:

Question 8: Do you consider that our assessment of the impacts of our proposals has taken full account of relevant factors? If you consider that there is additional evidence that would indicate particular impacts we should take into account, we would be grateful if you could provide this.:

No. Has a full survey been carried out as to the likely course of action which will be taken by airfields? How many will reduce their service? How many will pass on any increase in licence fees by increased landing fees? What effect will this have on aviators and what proportion will be priced out of aviation as a result?