

Title:

Capt

Forename:

Stefan

Surname:

Heale

Representing:

Organisation

Organisation (if applicable):

Bodmin Light Aeroplane Services Ltd.

Email:

blasltd@btconnect.com

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.

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?:

No.

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?:

No.

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.

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. The proposal to charge any more than the current fees for licensing of aeronautical frequencies is not appropriate.

Ofcom is a government agency and charging ridiculous fees for no work constitutes gross mis-use of public funds.

Over the past 30 years, general aviation pilots have become accustomed to using VHF comms to the extent that there are now many pilots who have never flown 'non-radio' and these have not developed the disciplines necessary for safe co-existence with other air traffic in such circumstances.

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. The proposal to charge £2,600.00 per annum for a small general aviation aerodrome to retain an Air/Ground service is outrageous. This is another example of a tax for which the tax payers receive no benefit and the organisation setting the tax provides nothing of value and does no work in return. Ofcom is not entitled to set taxes. If Ofcom's proposals are implemented, much non-radio flying will ensue with an inevitable detrimental effect on flight safety.

Neither Ofcom nor the Government actually own the air on the planet and the concept of charging to transmit radio waves through it is wholly unacceptable and an infringement of human rights.