

RNLI response to MOD consultation on UK Defence Spectrum Management

Question	Response
Question 1. Do you agree that the MOD has identified the options and factors that MOD should consider before deciding whether or not to extend the audit of the spectrum it uses?	Yes
Question 2. Do you have any views on the priority with which MOD should audit its spectrum use?	Yes – high usage/ high value first
Question 3. Do you agree with the phased approach to applying for RSA that the MOD is proposing?	Yes – however the RNLI is concerned that safety of life at sea may be compromised through usage adjacent to the 406Mhz frequency used by COSPAS/ SARSAT.
Question 4. Do you agree with the MOD’s plans for releasing and sharing the spectrum it uses?	Yes – provided that principles are adopted for preserving (not interfering with) spectrum used for distress, safety and SAR whilst also recognising that spectrum for the aforementioned is set by international agreements and cannot be easily changed.
Question 5. Do you agree with MOD’s priorities for releasing and sharing spectrum?	Yes
Question 6. Do you agree with MOD’s outline timetable for initial spectrum releases?	Yes
Question 7. Do you agree that MOD has correctly and fully identified the factors and options that should be considered before deciding to release and acquire spectrum in the market?	Yes
Question 8. Do you agree that MOD has correctly and fully identified the factors and options that should be considered before deciding the best means with which to interact with the market?	Yes
Question 9. Can you identify any different approaches for the MOD to manage the spectrum it uses and engage with the market to deliver better value for money for defence and the taxpayer?	No
Question 10. Which options (from paragraph 6.7) should be considered, or discounted, and if so why; either in respect of options already identified in section 6, or additional options, not identified?	Suggest option three so that MOD can concentrate on the management control of it’s own spectrum use for military purposes whilst engaging with a commercial partner to manage other spectrum.
Question 11. Which issues relating to section 6 should be considered when evaluating options, and if so why; either in respect of issues	It is not possible to comment without a full assessment of the value that a third party would bring to the equation.

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already identified in that section, or additional issues, not identified?	
Question 12. Is the scope of decisions required against each of the four questions at paragraph 6.3, as indicated in section 6, sufficient and, if not, how and why it should be extended?	As above (Q11)