

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

6 April 2017
Reference: F0003122

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 13 March 2017, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

“...under the freedom of information act, you are formally requested to provide the following information:-

- (i) A full list of VHF voice frequencies and their associated type of service / function and operating agency that the CAA have applied to the EU to retain as 25Khz channels beyond Jan 2018?*
- (ii) The period the of exemption the CAA has applied to the EU for?”*

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we are able to provide the information below.

European Commission Regulation (EC No.) 1079/2012 on Voice Channel Spacing permits Member States to grant exemptions from compliance with the Regulation “for cases having limited impact on the network.” i.e. where the continued use of one or more 25 kHz channels does not have an impact on the availability of frequencies more widely (particularly if the frequencies are re-used elsewhere in the same country or in neighbouring countries), each country can make a justification to the European Commission for an exemption. We have been working on the UK’s exemption plan, which is now available on the CAA’s web site at:

www.caa.co.uk/CAP1533

In accordance with the Regulation, the Commission is reviewing the detailed information from the Member States on the explanation for the exemption and is assessing the impact on the availability of frequencies across Europe. The Commission may request Member States to review their exemption policies if the impacts are not limited. Therefore the UK’s exemptions may be revised following the Commission’s review.

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House Gatwick Airport South Gatwick RH6 0YR. www.caa.co.uk

Telephone: 01293 768512. foi.requests@caa.co.uk

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Caroline Chalk
Head of External Information Services
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
Gatwick
RH6 0YR

caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=24>.

Yours sincerely



Rihanne Stephen
Information Rights Officer

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.