

Email response received 08 August 2005 from Mr R Gregory, G4OCO:

Question 1: *Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a lighter, electronic licensing process? If not, please explain why.*

Answer 1. Yes with some reservations.

Question 2: *Do you agree with the proposal to issue licences which remain valid for the life of the licensee? If not, please explain why.*

Answer 2. No, people move and in case of interference etc, the authorities would be unable to find the culprit with speed, also the amateur call book will slowly become out of date.

Question 3: *Do you agree with the proposal to issue electronic amateur radio licences free of charge? If not, please explain why.*

Answer 3. Yes and no, my preferred option is if we as amateurs pay we can ask for any offending / interference to be investigated, so on the whole a payment for the privilege of a licence is preferred.

Question 4: *Do you agree with the proposal to apply an administrative charge when processing postal applications for amateur radio licences? If not, please explain why.*

Answer 4. No, why should somebody who does not have a computer be penalised, level playing field please.

Question 5: *Do you agree that WT Act licence exemption for radio amateurs is not currently practical?*

Answer 5. Yes, due to international arrangements.

Question 6: *What are your views regarding the possibility of WT Act licence exemption for radio amateurs in the longer term?*

Answer 6. No way, there would be anarchy on the bands nothing would stop people with no technical knowledge using high power equipment, causing havoc with no recognisable call signs, bad language and abuse. We as a country would be a pain on the rest of the world and be unable to operate abroad. There must be an exam in place, with proof that a person is technically competent after all, we are talking about 400w from 1.810mhz to microwaves, that should concern yourselves as licensing authority.

Question 7: *Is maintaining the existing licensing regime but with an extended renewal period your preferred option? If so, please state the renewal period that you believe would be appropriate and explain why.*

Answer 7. Yes, five yearly approach would be better with all the present safeguards in place of technically competent persons operating equipment at

400w from 1.810 to the microwave frequencies.

Question 8: *Do you agree that the current licensing system is over-burdensome? If not, please explain why.*

Answer 8. We would all like a simpler system, but the question has to be asked what about the bands that we share, I.e. 70mhz, 70cms and above I am certain the M. O. D. and C. A. A. would like to know what is going on, at present the current hold on 70cms and the problems of T. V. repeater frequencies around major airports etc, make it simpler where we as amateurs are the primary user, but across the board no.

Question 9: *Do you agree with the proposal to apply an administrative charge when processing applications for a Notice of Variation to an amateur radio licence? If not, please explain why.*

Answer 9. No, it curtails experimentation as it is a barrier to push the frontiers back, in the past I have had N. O. V.'s for packet bulletin board and a packet switch, paying a fee for each port would of made the running costs very expensive. What is required is to encourage experimentation from the amateur population, as lessons and techniques learnt is usually used in industry, the experience gained I have been able to use in my work, it is invaluable.

Any other Comments

I tried not to be too negative, but in summary

- lighter touch in the regulatory department.
- Ability to improvise try new ideas and experiment, without crippling charges to push the technology boundaries that charges would bring.
- Continued ability to operate abroad using either C.E.P.T. conditions, or a reciprocal license.
- Finally, to protect society that people who use equipment know what they are doing, so that they don't harm themselves and others therefore some form of exam must stay in place.