

# *Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS)*

## **response to Ofcom Notification on Automotive Short Range Radar at 79GHz**

### **Introduction**

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is a vibrant club with ~100 strong membership, playing a very active role in Amateur Radio. It is affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) Amongst its members are operators from the HF to the microwave bands.

We have noted a raft of recent announcements from Ofcom which have implications for amateurs and wish to make the following comments on the Notification regarding licensing of Automotive Short Range Radar

### **Comments**

1. We would wish to highlight that the 77-81GHz band in question, plus the 24 GHz band which may also be used, are frequencies where there are Amateur microwave bands in which we have Primary Allocations, and members who use them.
2. This disregard of Primary users in our opinion sets a dangerous precedent for other reviews and the Ofcom Consultation Process, as amateur radio is under pressure from larger commercial interests.
3. Little regard in the document (apart from the corrigendum) is given to the likely interference implications these systems may have on Amateur users
4. We note that these radars are being licensed on a none-protected basis. However they are essentially a safety system and expensive liability issues may inevitably arise against alleged interference from Primary users such as Radio Amateurs.
5. We wish to express our dismay that our Primary allocation on 77.5GHz and probably at 24GHz has not been respected nor has interference to them been adequately assessed. We would also ask Ofcom to consider extending the availability of the original 75GHz Primary Amateur band beyond 2006 which could comfortably accommodate users away from the radars
6. Amateur radio microwaves at these frequencies is largely of a weak signal nature, often with received signals just above the noise floor. We feel that wideband SSR/LRR RF radiation on our frequencies could cause severe interference problems to our users
7. We also call for a genuine consultation on these matters and other similar situations in the future perhaps via our national society, the RSGB.
8. May we also register our protest at the excessive haste being attached to the issuing of documents affecting so many persons, some changes being introduced before the Consultation documents have been fully discussed or even returned.

Regards

John Bowen, G8DET, C.Eng. MIEE,

Vice Chairman on behalf of the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society, [www.g0mwt.org.uk](http://www.g0mwt.org.uk)