

SPECTRUM NEWSLETTER

BEIRG: who we are, and what we do

The British Entertainment Industry Radio Group (BEIRG) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that works for the benefit of all those who produce, distribute and ultimately consume content made using radio spectrum in the UK. Venues and productions that depend on radio spectrum include TV, film, sport, theatre, churches, schools, live music, news-gathering, political and corporate events, and many others. BEIRG campaigns for the maintenance of 'Programme Making and Special Events' (PMSE) access to sufficient quantity of interference-free spectrum for use by wireless production tools such as wireless microphones and wireless in-ear monitor (IEM) systems.



Current Issues

The current issues facing the PMSE industry at present are the protection of our spectrum at WRC-23 later this year, as well as the uncertainty over DTT beyond 2030 and recognition of the role that PMSE plays in all large scale events, not just theatre and live performances.

No change is the essential outcome for PMSE from WRC-23. Having lost so much spectrum in the last 10 years, it is vital that we not only retain the current band of spectrum we use, but that we continue to have the protection of the DTT umbrella. Whilst Ofcom has stated clearly that they support this position, its adoption by other countries is vital for harmonisation.

The future of DTT and our current spectrum allocation beyond 2030 is also on the agenda. Rather than wait for regulators to propose changes, BEIRG are starting to campaign now to ensure that we are a key focus for all decision makers both here and abroad and we do not find ourselves once again having to manage with even less spectrum allocation.

We are also supporting the Arqiva 2040+ campaign to safeguard digital terrestrial TV and radio. DTT provides PMSE with a shield, which allows us to broadcast without interference.

Engagement with Ofcom

Continuing our productive working relationship with Ofcom is crucial. We were therefore pleased to recently meet with David Willis, Group Head of Spectrum at Ofcom. He demonstrated a clear and detailed knowledge not only of the PMSE Sector, but of our very specific requirements regarding spectrum allocations and spectrum sharing. We are confident that these will be reflected in Ofcom's future plans and after WRC-23 will be re-instating our quarterly stakeholder meetings.



Engagement with Government

Alongside our discussions with Ofcom, we continue to seek support from MPs and Members of the House of Lords. We are hoping to meet with Caroline Dinenage MP, Chair of the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee (and former Culture Minister) alongside a campaign of constituency visits to key locations and BEIRG members. If you have an existing relationship with your local MP or would like to host a visit, please do get in touch. As a General Election is likely to take place in the next 12-15 months, we will be planning for all eventualities and mapping key politicians and those who might be coming into Parliament.



BEIRG Welcomes Support from Industry Organisations

BEIRG is fortunate to count both ABTT and PLASA as loyal supporters, and both organisations support us with their respective contributions to the Steering Committee as well as giving us representation to the industry via their membership and trade shows. Support from organisations from within our industry is invaluable.

This year we have had content displayed on stands at PLASA Focus in Leeds, and a BEIRG stand at ABTT, Alexandra Palace.

BEIRG Handy Guide

You can download a copy of the BEIRG Handy Guide for free and sign up to the BEIRG newsletter via our website at www.beirg.org or simply scan the QR Code.



A Look Ahead to PLASA 2023

At this week's PLASA London show, look out for our short show-reel running ahead of each seminar presentation as well as our presence through sponsoring the #WEMAKEEVENTS Party on Monday 4th September at the Olympia based show.



Please look out for the content and opportunity to subscribe to help and enable BEIRG to campaign and protect our industry's access to vital radio spectrum.

Consultations

One of the key tasks that the BEIRG Steering Group has to perform, is responding to the many Ofcom and Government Consultations. It is vital to respond to these consultations - they are a fundamental route to getting our points across in a timely fashion and ensuring our key messages are heard at the decision-making stage of policy development.

The depth of the consultations can vary significantly, and some can literally take months to write. It would be fair to say that consultations responses are far from fun to work on, but are mission critical in BEIRG's ongoing work.

If you want to read any of our previous submissions, you can find them [here](#).

Sign Up & Support

You can sign up to the BEIRG newsletter via our website at www.beirg.org or simply scan the QR Code.

