



# SPF KeyNote

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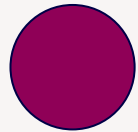
15 February 2024



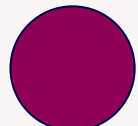
# Ofcom Spectrum Group

- Quick WRC Reflections
- 2024/25 Plan of Work
- Spectrum Sharing
- Upper 6 GHz
- Fees Review Work
- Sandboxes

# WRC – Quick observations

 Overall outcomes from WRC-23 were generally positive for UK  
❖ Recognition for IMT/RLANs in u6GHz, continued DTT in UHF, space weather, etc...

 However, process came under pressure and some aspects were not acceptable  
❖ Key decisions taken by only a few behind closed doors

 Geopolitics playing a greater role than ever and also significantly influenced WRC agenda items (eg “u6GHz”, satellites, and future bands for IMT)

 **WRC-27 Agenda - 19 substantive agenda items including:**  
❖ A wide range of satellite issues – satellite dominates the WRC-27 agenda  
❖ An IMT item that cuts across various European/NATO defence and science interests  
❖ Satellite and terrestrial convergence – ‘direct to device’  
❖ Items seeking to limit the operation of some services over national territories and ‘reserve’ orbital slots for the developing world  
❖ Various science related issues: space weather, sea surface temperature monitoring and lunar communications

# Thank You!



**Team UK: Industry, Government and Ofcom**



# 24/25 proposed workplan is built on three pillars



Supporting  
network evolution  
and convergence

- Make more spectrum available for wireless broadband
- Enable next generation spaces services



Accelerating innovation in  
spectrum management  
and sharing

- Drive spectrum management innovation nationally and internationally to support more efficient use of spectrum
- Support the development of spectrum sandboxes to inform our future policies through real world data



Updating and reviewing  
the spectrum  
management framework

- Enable timely & efficient access to spectrum by ensuring our spectrum management framework continues to supports a varied set of users and events
- Enhancing our operational capabilities to support spectrum users

# Proposed Plan of Work Details



Supporting network  
evolution and  
convergence

- Award mmWave spectrum (26 and 40 GHz)
- Enable future access to 1.4 GHz
- Future use of Upper 6Ghz
- Wireless broadband evolution
- Impact of fibre on fixed links
- NGSO terminal and gateway access



Accelerating innovation in  
spectrum management  
and sharing

- Engagement on sandboxes
- Enabling innovative satellite services
- Licensing platform evolution
- Measuring background noise pollution

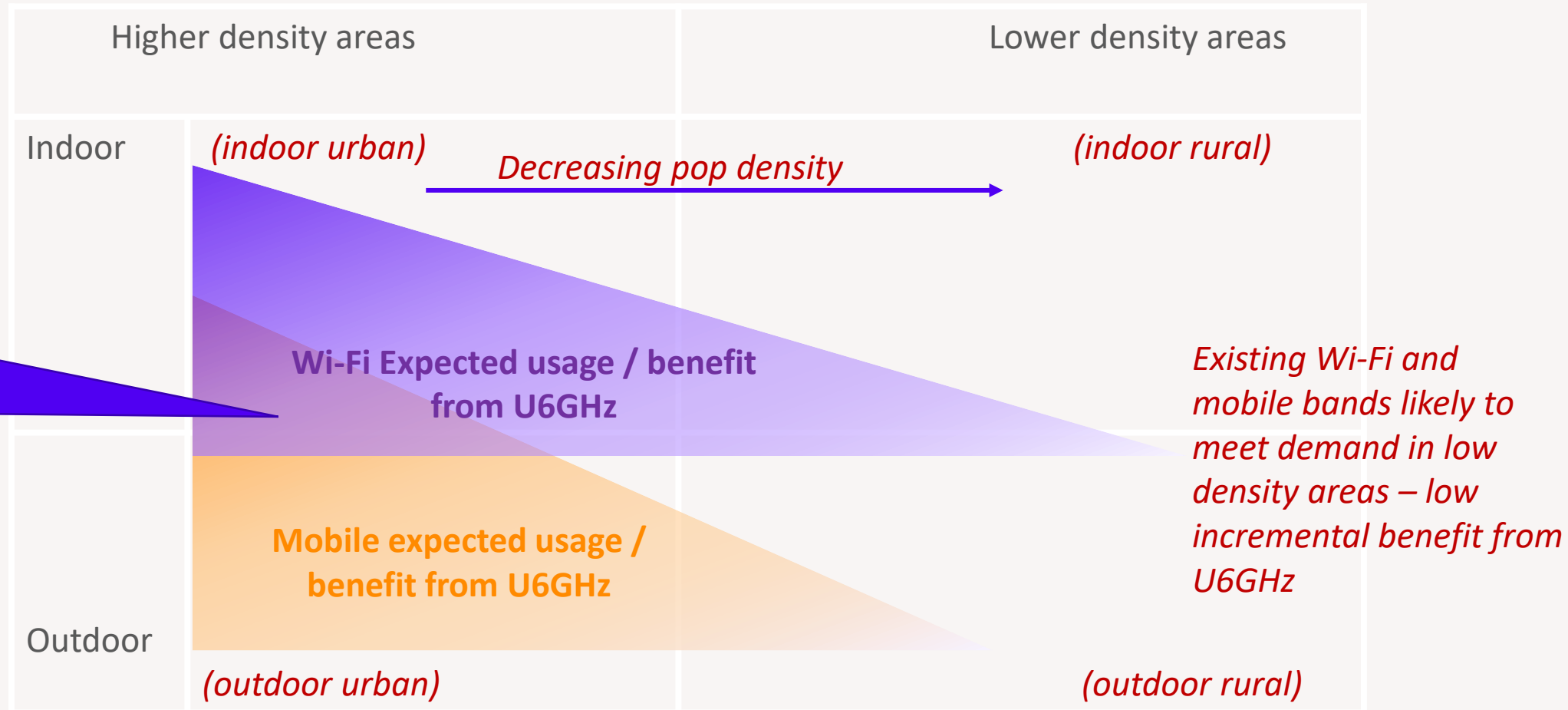


Updating and reviewing  
the spectrum  
management framework

- Licence and process simplification
- Evolution of shared access framework
- Shared rural network compliance

# Goal for Upper 6GHz – allow greatest benefits from use of the band for both Wi-Fi and mobile

We want a framework that allows **majority of the benefits from mobile** and from Wi-Fi / licence **exempt** (when compared to either use exclusively)



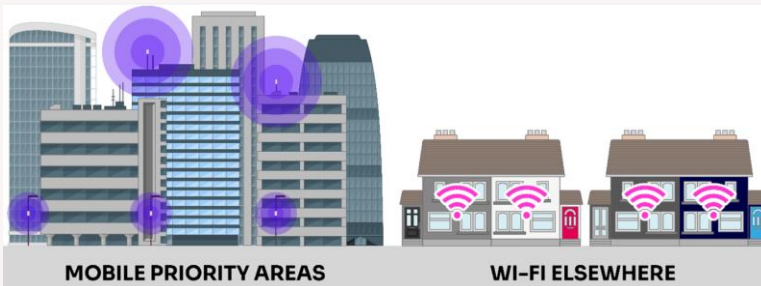
Mechanisms and policy choices needed to manage this intersection

# Upper 6GHz – Current state of play



WRC-23 recognised the use of **Wi-Fi** alongside an **IMT** identification for the Upper 6 GHz band

Agreed appropriate levels to protect fixed satellite (EIRP mask)



Work underway in ECC PT1 on hybrid sharing between **Wi-Fi** and **mobile**

Very active engagement and support from many European administrations

Constructive engagement and research efforts from many industry players, with new ideas on how to make this work

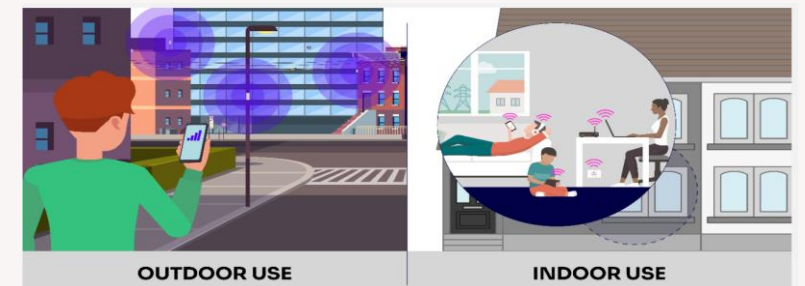
But still relatively early days – results expected end 2024 / early 2025



Consulted on hybrid sharing between **Wi-Fi** and **Mobile** in 2023

Committed to working nationally and internationally to find suitable coexistence solutions

Expect to consult further during 2024 or early 2025





# Looking to sharing to increase spectrum supply and access

## Shared Access for Local Networks\*

- Increased signal strength
- Denser deployments
- Encouraging collaboration

## mmWave for National and Local Mobile

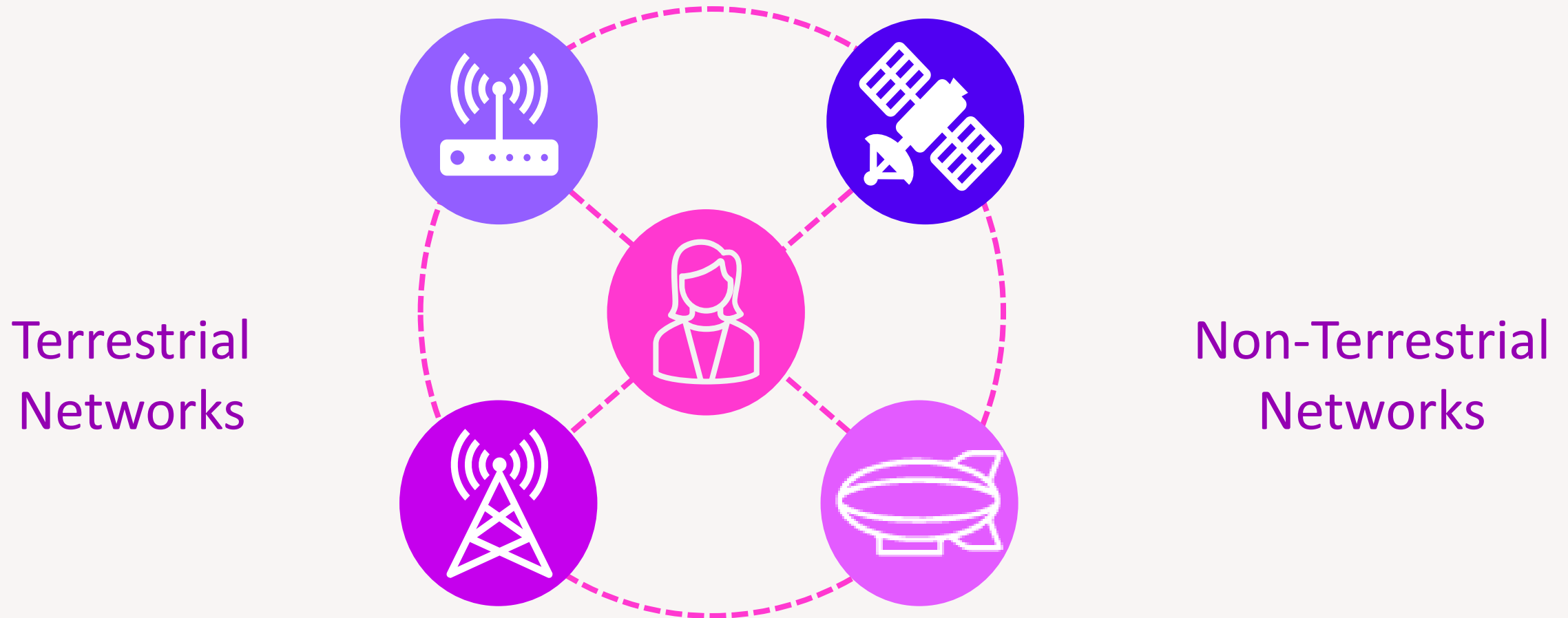
- Rural & Urban
- Nationwide urban assignments via auction
- Local assignments via annual fees

## 6 GHz for Mobile and Wi-Fi\*

- Indoor/Outdoor sharing
- Rural /Urban sharing
- Adaptive to emergent demand

\* Policy proposals

# Future innovation and growth will require a “sharing by design” mindset



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# Contact

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