

Shared Access update & Spectrum Sandbox

UK SPF SAL Industry Forum

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Shared Access



Shared Access headlines

It has been nearly three years since Ofcom launched the Shared Access licence (SAL) approach.

Uptake so far

- Now have over 1600 licences on issue.
- Most new licences are in 3.8-4.2 GHz band.
- Issuing between 20 – 70 licences per month.

Developments

- Consulted on liberalising the use of Shared Access in the 26 GHz band.
- Shared Access is helping support new emerging use cases.
- Number of countries looking at the 3.8-4.2 GHz for local/private mobile.

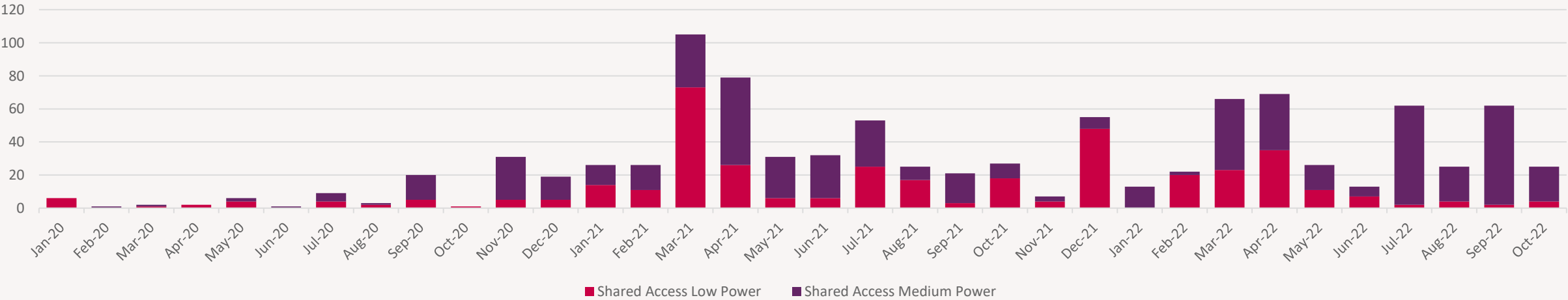
Future

- Licensing systems upgrade will look to automate the licensing process.
- Looking at what we have learned and how the SAL may evolve in future.
- Work on the longer term role of opportunistic access

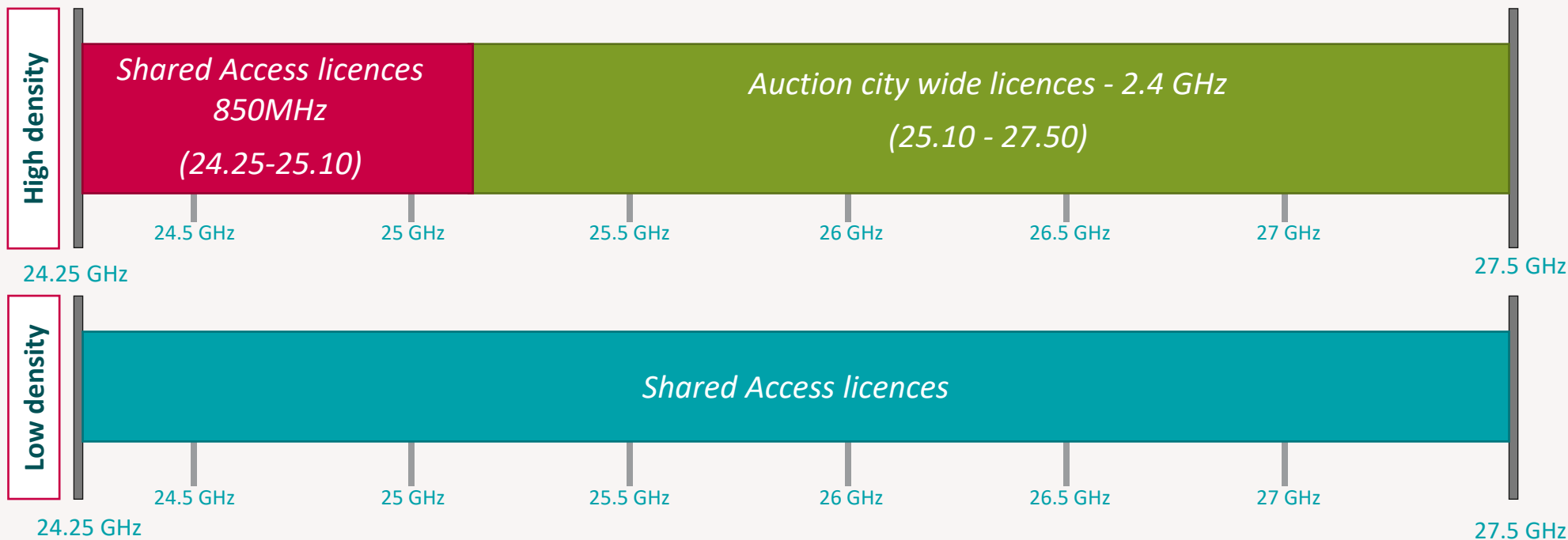
Shared Access licence uptake

	1800 MHz	2.3 GHz	3.8-4.2 GHz	26 GHz	Total
Low Power	894	34	184	1	1113
Medium Power	89	-	408	-	497
Total	983	34	592	1	1610

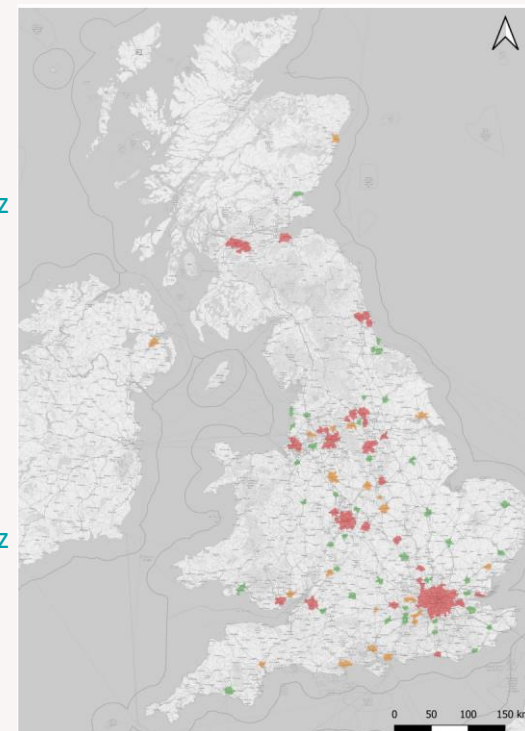
Shared Access Licences issued by month



The 26 GHz band – our proposals



Map of proposed top 20 (red), top 40 (red and amber) and top 80 (red, amber and green) high density areas



Proposed ‘hybrid’ authorisation approach

- In major towns and cities (“**high density areas**”), offer:
 - **local, low power** licences for spectrum in 850 MHz in the 26 GHz band, allocated on a first come first served basis (FCFS);
 - allocate **city wide, medium power** licences for rest by auction.
- In the rest of the country (“**low density areas**”) – offer **local, medium power** licences for **all** the spectrum, on a FCFS basis.

Future

Automation: We are updating our licensing system to automate our licensing functions as part of our Licensing Platform Evolution (LPE) project. Our aim is to reduce our licence processing times and allow stakeholders greater management of their licences. The initial phase will be online application process which we plan to be in place 2024.

Taking stock: We believe it is a good opportunity to take stock and look at how the framework may evolve in the future, taking account of the demand characteristics we have seen and what stakeholders have told us on areas such as licence conditions, technical parameters and coordination mechanisms.

Opportunistic access & adaptive allocation: We are looking at the opportunities and challenges of enabling opportunistic and/or adaptive allocation mechanisms. We are currently considering use cases that might benefit from such access as well as the state of the technical ecosystem that could support this. We expect to provide an updated position on this work by the Spring.



Spectrum Sandbox

3.8 - 4.2 GHz



What's a spectrum sandbox?

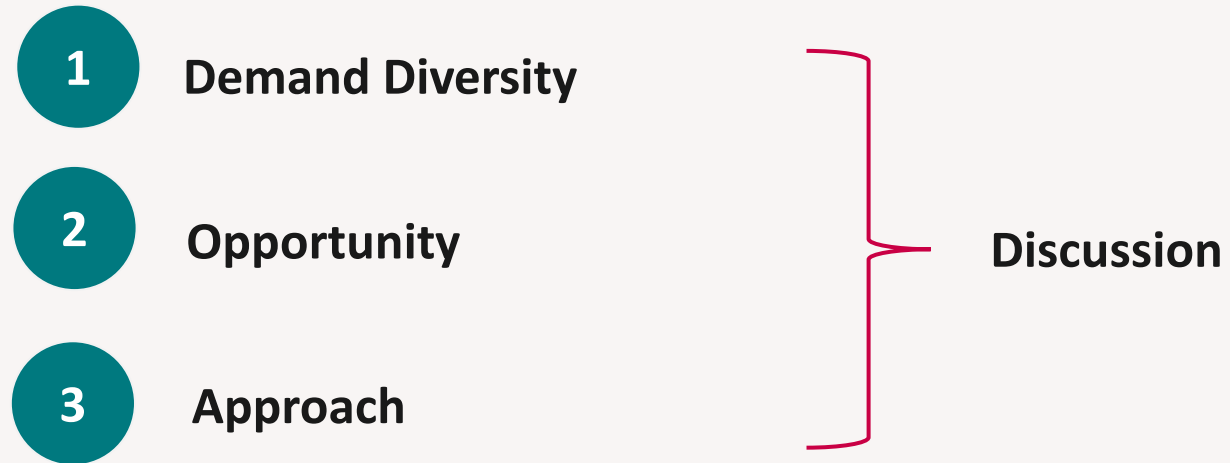


**Accelerating
innovation and
sharing with spectrum
sandboxes**

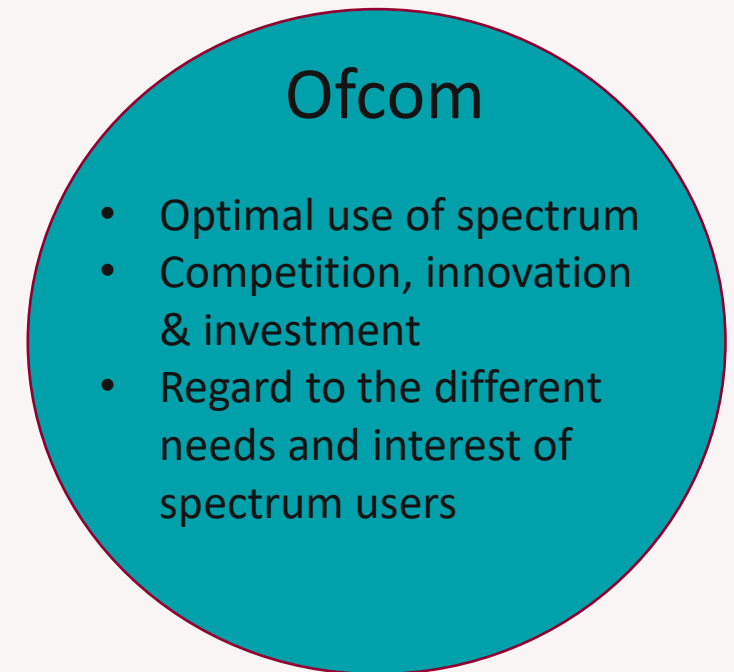
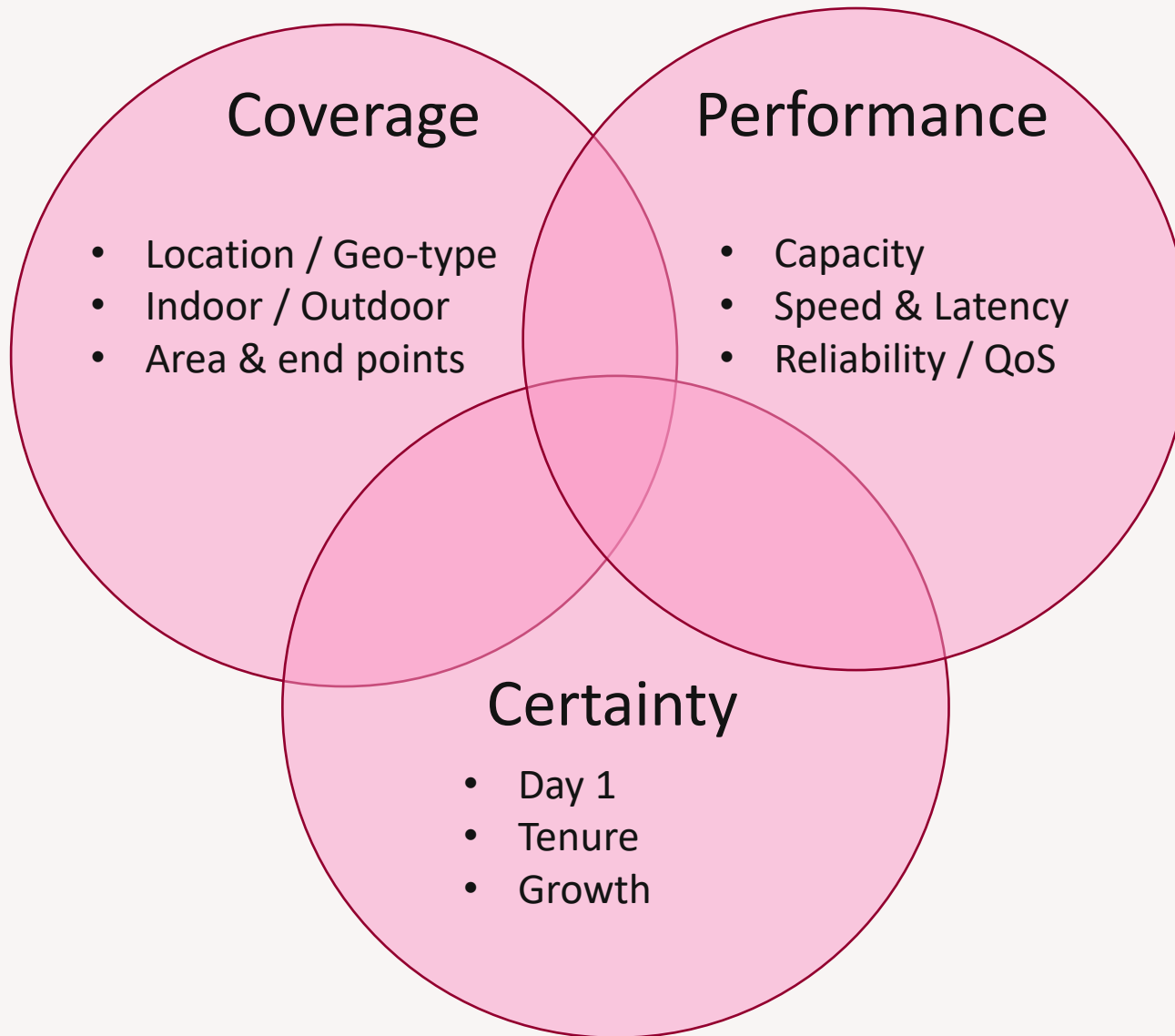
We will explore the use of spectrum 'sandboxes' in specific geographic locations and specific bands, to enable industry to collaboratively experiment with new ways to enable greater spectrum sharing, working directly with stakeholders to accelerate the process of specifying and agreeing coexistence and sharing conditions

Spectrum Roadmap Discussion Document

Today



Demand Diversity



Opportunity

- Supply side diversity & potential Europe wide market
- Active Antenna Systems & Software Defined Radio
- Better data and data sharing
- Flexibility and agility through software and open interfaces

Potential Approach

- Demand vs. supply gap analysis
- Measure gap between modelled & real-world propagation and performance
- Identify candidate solutions to close residual gaps
- Field trials of candidate solutions

Next step.... Workshop of the willing

Discussion

