



PLANNING, COMMUNITY AND EMF FACT SHEET SERIES

INTERFERENCE WITH TELEVISION RECEPTION

Will a mobile phone base station interfere with my television reception?

All operators of radio transmitters are under a legal obligation to operate those transmitters in accordance with the condition of their licence.

Operating any transmitters in accordance with the conditions of the licence fulfils the legal obligations in respect of interference to other radio systems, other electrical equipment, instrumentation or air traffic systems. The conditions of the licence are mandated by Ofcom, an agency of national government. The remit of Ofcom also includes investigation and remedy of any reported significant interference.

Mobile phone base stations that provide 4G services have a small potential to cause interference with digital TV reception. This is because the 800 MHz part of the electromagnetic frequency (EMF) spectrum, which some mobile network operators use for 4G services, is close to the frequency used for digital terrestrial television (the UK Freeview UHF frequency range is between 470 & 854MHz).

EE, Telefónica O2, Three and Vodafone have now formed a jointly-controlled company – at800 – that is responsible for ensuring that consumers continue to receive clear Freeview TV signals following the roll out of 4G mobile services. The funding for this company has come directly from proceeds of the Government's auction of the 4G licences. If you wish to discuss your freeview reception with at800 please find their home page here: <https://at800.tv/>. At800 can also be contacted by telephone on 0808 13 13 800.

If there is a complaint of interference to domestic radio and television which is not associated with 4G transmissions the BBC address this issue via the BBC Help receiving TV and radio web site at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/reception/>.

For further information please contact:

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