

## **REPEATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT SPECTRUM FORUM JUNE 2007**

The main spectrum issues for the RMC in the past year have continued to be in the 70cm and 23 cm bands.

Although some progress is still being made in the licensing of 70cm repeaters the PU continues to be quite difficult with many frequencies apparently being used on a nationwide basis. The widespaced channels, i.e. those using a 7.6MHz shift are especially difficult to clear. A recent meeting with the MOD gave some hope that some of this use may be ceased but no definite date could be given.

The proliferation of deregulated devices operating around 433MHz also presents problems to those repeaters sited in residential areas. This has now resulted in Ofcom requiring tests to be carried out from prospective repeater sites to ensure that car immobilisers and alarm systems will not be blocked.

23cms continues as an area of concern as the Primary Users have objected to virtually all proposals made in the recent past. Some suggestions for alternative repeater frequencies have been made by the Microwave Manager and these are currently being tried for clearance with the Primary Users.

At our last RMC meeting we discussed the move towards digital voice repeaters and it was agreed that the 'standard' repeater channels would also be used for digital systems with appropriate geographical separation. Interest has been shown in establishing a few D-Star repeaters although in keeping with the current regulatory regime we intend to be technology neutral and will consider any digital technology.

**John McCullagh GI4BWM**

**Chairman Repeater Management Committee**