

# Comparison of professional and licence exempt options

## info card

<u>Item</u>	<u>Licensed Equipment</u>	<u>Licence Exempt Equipment</u>
<b>Radio Channels</b>	<b>Technically Assigned Channels</b> You will have an exclusive channel in your operating area. You can obtain technical support from Ofcom should you have undue interference from other nearby users.	<b>Uncontrolled Public Channels</b> These channels are available to the general public (and children) for recreational use. Ofcom will not assist with any complaints relating to interference.
<b>Radio Power Output</b>	<b>Maximum Power Output Permitted</b> A technically assigned licence permits handportables up to 5 Watts output power in VHF and UHF to provide good communication coverage.	<b>Low Power Permitted</b> The licence exempt UHF specification allows only ½ Watt output for very limited use.
<b>Flexibility</b>	<b>Wide Range of Options and Facilities</b> The standard licence permits a wide range of facilities including the use of a Repeater Base Station, vehicle mobiles or connection to a Telephone System or Fire and Intruder Alarm.	<b>Very Limited Facilities Permitted</b> The use of any additional fixed equipment is specifically prohibited - in this way it is not possible to upgrade the system in any way.
<b>Maintainability</b> (Less than £100 ea)	<b>Fully Maintainable Equipment</b> Older equipment which conforms to the current EU specification is usually maintainable and parts are generally available for service support.	<b>Low Quality Limited Life Leisure Products</b> Usually designed as disposable equipment, parts and technical support are usually not available from manufacturer or the importing agent.
<b>Maintainability</b> (More than £100 ea)	<b>Fully Maintainable Equipment</b> New equipment which conforms to the current EU specification is fully maintainable, and all parts and software are available for many years.	<b>Upper Tier Products</b> Some products are designed to be maintainable and can provide several years of service in light duty applications.
<b>PMR446 Concept</b>	The PMR446 Licence Exempt concept is to provide an 'entry level' specification for organisations and the general public, requiring occasional routine lower quality communication. In many cases this is a precursor to the lease or purchase of more professional equipment where there is a long term business need.	

To make use of the PMR446 service, it is vital to choose a product with a future, which is manufactured by a well known 'quality name', supplied and maintained by a known competent supplier.

  
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