



Help and Advice Group

Northern Synod Office, 4 College Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8JJ (0191-232 1168)

Bulletin 3: RADIO MICROPHONES

The Help & Advice Group was set up by Synod in 2009, to support local churches in being informed and effective in their life and mission. The Group is made up of five members of local churches, together with administrative support from the Trust Officer. We are willing to try to provide specific advice or organise training days on particular topics. Please get in touch if you have questions or wish to suggest a training or discussion event.

This is the first article in a planned series giving an overview of particular subjects of interest for local churches. We also circulate general updates from time to time. Bulletins will also be posted on the members' area of the website with direct links to other websites.

Where readers are directed to web-based resources, the Synod Office is willing to respond to reasonable requests for printed out information for readers without web access, although they may find it more satisfactory to follow up their interest through their local library's web access.

Radio Microphones

With the last of the analogue television transmitters due to be switched off during 2012, Ofcom has decided to reorganise VHF/UHF bands.

As radio microphones use frequencies within these bands, any changes could affect their use. At present, it does not appear that the unregulated low bands VHF 173-175 MHz will be affected. The regulated VHF band whose frequencies are 211-217 MHz is to be reallocated to 209-210 MHz. The regulated UHF band 854-862 MHz is to be cleared, and it is proposed to reallocate it to 607-613 MHz. The unregulated UHF band 863-865 MHz could remain unchanged.

As most churches will be using the unregulated frequencies, they should be able to continue using their radio microphones without any problem. To use radio microphones within the regulated frequencies, a licence must be obtained from the local authority.

For additional advice, please contact the Synod Office.

[We are grateful to Robert Chisholm for his assistance in preparing this article.]

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