

CAP 1606: 8.33 kHz voice channel spacing in the UK: **Common sporting and recreational assignments including Safetycom**

During 2018 most UK VHF assignments were converted to 8.33 kHz voice channel spacing. **All common sporting assignments in the UK now operate 8.33kHz voice channel spacing. This includes Safetycom.**

The conversion changes the way common assignments are displayed and spoken. This document outlines the channel references that must be used. It is imperative that the correct assignments are used by all users to ensure interoperability and to prevent interference.

The latest version of this document incorporates a number of additional frequencies that have been made available and important changes to the applicable use of existing channels. Please update additional records with the revised use definitions and review any associated documents referenced.

Please ensure the correct channel references are utilised, displayed and spoken and that the correct channel is utilised for the correct purpose. Non-8.33 kHz capable radios must not be used on 8.33kHz channels.

Common Assignments in the UK

8.33 kHz Channel	Primary Use	Secondary Use	Notes
118.680	Hang Glider	Para Glider	-Shared Channel -Mobile within UK FIR
118.685	Gliding (Secondary CGFF)		-Site specific for busy airfields -Refer to BGA Guidance
122.480	Ballooning		-Mobile within UK FIR
122.955	Depcom		-Refer to UK AIP GEN 3.4
129.830	Microlight		-Site specific for busy airfields
129.835	Microlight (IFSA)		-Mobile within UK FIR

129.905	Gliding (Ground Retrieval)	Parachute DZ - Aircraft Hang Glider	-Shared Channel -Refer to BGA Guidance -Refer to BPA Guidance
129.980	Gliding (CGFF)		-Site specific for busy airfields -Refer to BGA Guidance
130.105	Gliding (IFSA)		-Mobile within UK FIR -Refer to BGA Guidance
130.130	Gliding (IFSA)		-Mobile within UK FIR -Refer to BGA Guidance
130.535	Gliding (Cloud Flying)		-Mobile within UK FIR -Refer to BGA Guidance
129.890	Gliding (Competition)	Gliding (Coaching)	-Shared channel -Mobile within UK FIR -Refer to BGA Guidance
130.405	Gliding (Competition)	Gliding (Coaching)	-Shared Channel -Mobile within UK FIR Refer to BGA Guidance
130.530	Parachute (DZ-Parachutist)		Mobile within UK FIR Refer to BPA Guidance
135.480	Safetycom		Refer to UK AIP GEN 3.4, CAP 413 or AIC Yellow 099/2018

BGA Guidance – [Managing Flying Risk Version 10](#)

BPA Guidance – [CAA Parachutists Aeronautical Radio Station Operators Guide](#)

IFSA – Inflight Situational Awareness

CGFF – Common Gliding Field Frequency

Aeronautical radio station operators, WT Act Licensees and aircraft stations flight crew are responsible for ensuring they use correct radio telephony procedures and discipline so that these assignments are shared in a reasonable manner between all users.

Please note that the usage requirements do not alleviate in any way the requirement for everyone using Aeronautical equipment either on-board an aircraft or in a ground station from having an Aircraft or Transportable Radio Licence, or an Aeronautical Ground Station Licence respectively.

Further information is available from the [Ofcom website](#) or through the representing organisation.

www.caa.co.uk/General-aviation/Aircraft-ownership-and-maintenance/8-33-kHz-radios/

Common Assignments remaining on 25kHz spacing

Assignment (MHz)	Use	Notes
121.500	Emergency Frequency	See IR 1079/2012 Article 2, 4(a)(i)
121.600	Fire	Exempted within UK FIR up to 31/12/2025
123.100	SAR Auxiliary Frequency	See IR1079/2012 Article 2, 4(a)(ii)
122.100	NATO Combined Frequency	See IR1079/2012 Preamble (15)