

## **MAKING THE VK-DMR NETWORK SIMPLER AND MORE FLEXIBLE**

There are approximately 50 Talk Groups (TGs) on the VK-DMR network. This is confusing for new users and makes radio programming a complex business. Many of the TGs are not used.

There are also a lot of static (always on) TGs on TS2 – 505, and the state/territory based 380x series. Experience has proven that multiple static TGs do not work well together on the same time slot.

For example, if a state/territory 380x TG is being used, it blocks TG505 on every repeater in that state/territory – this is confusing for users and limits network flexibility.

So, we have decided to simplify network operation using a two-phase process.

### **Phase one**

**Phase one will take effect from 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

All TGs will become User Activated (UA), apart from 5 on TS1 and 505 on TS2.

*Any* 380x TG may be used to link *any* two or more repeaters together on TS2. As with all UA channels, the repeaters need to be keyed up (“kerchunked”) on the appropriate 380x TG.

TG505 will not change – it will remain static and will continue as the network calling channel.

The parrot on TG9990 and the VK-DMR net on TG5 will not change.

Your radio will continue to work as is without reprogramming.

Phase 1 will run for one month.

## **Phase two**

### **Phase two will take effect from 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Under Phase two, the network will be reconfigured as follows:

<b><i>Time Slot 1 – all user access</i></b>	
<b>TG</b>	<b>Used for</b>
5	Broadcasts
3801-3808	Tactical user channels
9	Local to the repeater only (no change)

<b><i>Time Slot 2</i></b>	
<b>TG</b>	<b>Used for</b>
505	Calling and the Tuesday evening net
9990	Parrot (no change)

The 3801-8 TGs will move to TS1 and become tactical channels.

Users will call on 505 and then QSY to any of the 3801-3808 TGs on TS1. Any of these TGs may be used by any station, in any location – they are no longer region specific.

The Tuesday evening VK-DMR net will move to TG505.

Any other nets will use TG3801-8, with an announcement on 505 prior to the net.

Outside of net times, 505 will be used as a calling channel only.

Broadcasts will continue to use TG5, however they will be UA. As with all UA channels, if you wish to listen to a broadcast, you must key up your local repeater or hotspot on TG5. Broadcasts will be preceded by an announcement on 505.

These changes will simplify network operation/radio programming and improve network flexibility.

We will post up new user guides for radio and hotspot programming in early January.