



# WATCH TOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

THE RIDGEWAY LONDON NW7 1RN

TELEPHONE 020 8906 2211

SDA December 12, 2008

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Confidentiality and wireless communication

Dear Brothers:

We are pleased to provide the following updated guidelines relating to the use of cordless microphones, cordless telephones, and mobile phones.

**Cordless microphones:** While what is presented at our meetings and assemblies is generally not confidential, on occasion, meetings are held that are of a confidential nature. For example, the branch office may sponsor schools for congregation elders and ministerial servants held at a Kingdom Hall. On such occasions, cordless microphones should not be used.

**Cordless telephones:** At times, elders need to discuss confidential matters over the telephone. For such conversations, it is permissible to use a cordless *digital* telephone. Cordless *analogue* telephones do not provide adequate privacy and should not be used. If you are not certain whether you have a *digital* cordless telephone, it may be best to use a landline telephone. Therefore, please make sure that your telephone is not a cordless *analogue* telephone.

**Mobile phones:** These signals are encrypted and considered to be secure from people seeking to monitor conversations. Therefore, mobile phones may be used when calling the branch office or when discussing confidential matters with fellow elders.

In highly sensitive cases, it is best to confer in person whenever possible. We trust you brothers will use good judgment and discretion in determining how best to handle such matters.—Ps. 101:2; Matt. 10:16, 17.

We pray Jehovah's rich blessing as you continue to faithfully fulfil your weighty responsibilities in the congregation. Please accept an expression of our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,

*Watch Tower B. & T. Society*  
OF BRITAIN

cc: Travelling overseers

PS to the secretary:

This letter should be retained in the congregation's permanent file of policy letters.