

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Alec

Surname:

Thomas

Representing:

Organisation

Organisation (if applicable):

AT Consultancy

What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:

No

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

None of my submission is confidential

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

This trial of low cost DAB delivery systems is to be applauded. The level of cost for current DAB services is prohibitive and as such this factor alone may be having a disproportionately large influence on the perceived potential of the DAB platform for the smaller scale operator.

Question 1: Do you agree that we have identified the objectives which the small scale DAB multiplex trial should seek to achieve?:

Yes

Question 2: Are there any other questions or issues which the small scale DAB multiplex trial should seek to address?:

Bearing in mind the target groups for this trial and their low levels of funding is Ofcom proposing to use its 'muscle' to obtain free or highly cost effective transmission sites?

Question 3: Do you agree with our proposed technical licence conditions?:

Would Ofcom consider giving assistance to small scale groups to find suitable low cost transmission sites that would meet their coverage requirements? (See answer to Q2 above)
If only suitable transmission sites were Arqiva owned could Ofcom encourage abandonment of Arqiva rate card pricing?

I am pleased to see that Ofcom are to provide primary inter-connect circuits. Would Ofcom provide necessary terminal equipment (routers etc) if the use of IP carriage was to be proposed?

Question 4: Do you agree with our approach to non-technical licence conditions and requirements?:

Yes

Question 5: Do you agree with our proposed approach to awarding trial licences?:

Again bearing in mind the target groups for this trial ,would Ofcom be prepared to take a more pro-active role in seeking suitable applicants if the response from this target group was non existent or of a low order?

Question 6: Do you agree with our proposals set out in this section in relation to final reporting obligations, the recovery of the equipment and the extension of trial licence duration?:

Yes