

Representing:

Organisation

Organisation (if applicable):

The Vale Online

What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:

Keep name confidential

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

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

As a not-for-profit community radio station, this is a very exciting venture for us, as it will allow our current internet based output to reach the socially isolated communities of the Vale of York. This will increase our ability to fulfil our remit of supporting communities and charities in the area, currently significantly underserved.

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

Yes, but some clarification needed.

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

Yes, in regard to TSA footprint. If we as a community station join up with another community station elsewhere in the county, and go for Option two (i.e. with two TX sites), if each service is carried on each TX as is suggested, then the TSA of each station increases by a factor of two. Is that acceptable, bearing in mind that we are supposed to only be able to achieve a maximum footprint of 40% of the TX coverage of a local station on the larger regional MUX?

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

Yes. How many transmitters are permitted per application (ref options two and three)

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

Clarification is required around the matter of which services can come together on one multiplex. What is the definition of a Commercial station? Would a community station have to 'buddy-up' with a commercial station in order to be considered?

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

Yes, so long as the above TSA and commercial status questions are addressed

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, however we have some concerns about possible withdrawal of licence should spectrum be diverted to other services mid-trial.