

Joseph Powell
Broadcast Licensing Team (Community Radio)
Ofcom
125 Princes Street
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EH2 4AD

26 March 2018

Dear Mr Powell

RE: Consultation: Fever FM – Request to change Key Commitments

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health.

I am writing in relation to the alarming release of the consultation paper proposing Fever FM's request to change its Key Commitments.

It is astounding that an organisation which has had blatant disregard and floundered its obligations to Key Commitments previously is given the opportunity to change its Key Commitments, allowing it to continue and deviate from its licence agreement.

This highlights and confirms previous findings of Ofcom which stated Fever FM had breached its key commitments.

In September 2017 it was reported Fever FM had been rapped by Ofcom for not fulfilling its community licence. It was found Fever FM had breach Conditions 2(1) and 2(4) of its licence. Alarmingly it now applies to change its Key Commitments?

Mr Powell this is an extremely dangerous precedent to set if the change is granted. This will encourage others to flounder obligations and simply apply for a commitment change when its breach is discovered.

It is alarming the industry regulator is even contemplating a change. In my opinion it should consider revocation of the licence.

The granting of the licence to Fever FM required it to fulfil its obligations to the local community throughout the year. A change in its key commitments is not the premise under which its licence was granted.

As highlighted in your paper under section 1.13 you to agree that the departure from its key commitments would substantially alter the character of its services under section 106 (1A) of the Broadcasting Act 1990.

In addition to this it will severely impact on those who seek to rely on RSL Licences for key religious festivals throughout the year.

I urge you against this consultation and encourage you to hold Fever FM accountable for its previous failings and as the regulator not to encourage deviation from licences.

To avert any doubt I strongly contest any deviation from its current Key Commitments.

I look forward to the change being rejected.

Kind regards

Mr Jeffery Armstrong