

Your response

Question 1: Respondents are invited to comment on whether they agree with Ofcom's preliminary view and to frame their views and responses with reference to, or in the context of, the statutory criteria in section 106(1A) of the Broadcast Act 1990 (as amended).

I do not agree to XS Manchester as a rock station disappearing from the airwaves. Capital Xtra can already be heard in Manchester, as it already broadcasts nationally on DAB. Surely by turning XS Manchester into Capital Xtra on FM when it's already on DAB would mean lessening of choice to the listener. Also, where do XS Manchester's rock listeners go to if they feel too old for Radio X, 6 Music?

XS Manchester's strong selling point is that it is the only radio station that broadcasts 24 hours a day from Manchester, to the listeners in Manchester. Smooth, Heart and Capital in Manchester already broadcast 21 hours a day from London despite them having a so-called local radio licence. I doubt that Capital Xtra of London would connect with listeners the way XS Manchester's presenter's do now. For Ofcom to allow only three hours a day of local programming, and none at weekends is a pittance. If Communicorp want to change XS Manchester to Capital XTRA, and if they want to run a local licence, why not have a Capital XTRA 24 hours a day 7 days a week broadcasting from Manchester and leave the Capital XTRA from London on DAB? Alternatively, if they do not want to, why not advertise the FM licence to someone who does?