

## Your response

Question	Your response
	<p>Confidential? –/ No</p> <p>Do you agree that for the purposes of where locally-made programming may come from, Ofcom should approve the ‘South of England (Bauer)’ area in relation to the 12 local licences listed in Section 2 of this document? If you do not agree, please give reasons.</p> <p><b>The Chichester Liberal Democrats local party is strongly opposed to these proposals</b></p> <p><b><u>SpiritFM</u></b> SpiritFM is our local radio station, covering an area including a large part of West Sussex including Worthing in the East, Billingshurst &amp; Horsham in the north and into Hampshire in the west. Located in Chichester Spirit FM has always been an outstanding local radio station offering, a range of music, news, travel and community information relevant and tailored to the local community.</p> <p>SpiritFM has always contributed a lot to the community with its outstanding service to local organisations, charities and community events.</p> <p>Many times our members have enjoyed outside broadcasts at local events. SpiritFM has supported charities and is always the first to report real local issues. For many they have been a vital lifeline in the recent Corona Virus shut down. In fact for people who are social isolating Spirit and its community element has been so important to their well being and mental health. That can never be achieved with a broadcaster from many miles away without local content.</p> <p>One of our current local Councillors is in fact a past Director so we have inside experience from the early days of SpiritFM.</p>

SpiritFM we understand continues to be profitable, is certainly very successful with a growing audience and a strong revenue stream based on advertising. Our local party can see no reason to change the local content, the location and the current business profile.

#### **Local Radio**

As we were given little time to present our views we have not been able to speak directly with all local parties affected by this announcement, however please be assured we will reach out across our local parties in West Sussex and across Britain to provide you with a more regional and national view of our party.

**Local radio in Britain is under serious threat from the emergence of large national and international media brands.** They will not understand or cater to a local need. We urge you to keep the faith in true local radio, providing local content and broadcast by people who live here in the community and care for the community.