Your response

I represent the "Save Spirit FM" Facebook Group and change.org petition which at the time of writing has over 5000 signatures.

At the time this consultation was started, we did not know what plans Bauer Media had for these heritage stations, but now we do – it's to close them and make nearly all of the staff redundant. An exact replica of what happened last year with Global and many Heart/Capital etc. stations as a result of the terrible decision by OFCOM to allow this via the deregulation made in 2018.

However this time it is even worse because it means the closure of many commercially successful radio stations like Spirit FM which has championed local causes for the last 24 years and is loved by hundreds of thousands of loyal listeners every month as evidenced by its recent best-ever RAJAR results last quarter.

A single regional drivetime show replacing an entire lineup of locally produced content is not what the public wants. It is not local. We do not want another National Radio station via the backdoor of taking over local licenses which is what OFCOM has allowed, and continues to allow.

Local radio is an essential service, it brings communities together, fights for local causes, informs about local issues and events and is a friendly voice for hundreds of thousands of people.

I request that as part of this response that you include the attached PDF containing all of the individual responses from the people that signed the Save Spirit FM petition on change.org.

Please do not allow the changes proposed into this consultation to go ahead.

Signed, all of the signatories to the "Save Spirit FM" petition which can be found at: http://chng.it/QPKWKfW2