

Question	Your response
<p>Question 1: Should Ofcom exercise its discretion to consent to the application to vary the Stirling & Falkirk small-scale multiplex licensed area, with regard to the statutory and policy considerations set out in this document?</p>	<p>Confidential? – No</p> <p>Yes, after due consideration we believe that Ofcom should exercise its discretion to vary the Stirling & Falkirk small-scale multiplex licensed area.</p>
<p>Question 2: With reference to our impact assessment, do you agree with our assessment of the potential impacts of approving this application?</p>	<p>Confidential? – No</p> <p>Broadly we agree with the impact assessment. Recent requests for Expression of interest in operating the proposed Dunfermline and Kinross multiplex indicated only 1 party expressing interest. With the recent history of multiplex awards in the wider Fife Council area demonstrating that the viability of the of the proposed polygons was challenging our assessment is that the Dunfermline and Kinross multiplex may be similarly challenging. We therefore agree with Ofcom that the granting of this award probably does not impact the viability of a future licence of the Dunfermline and Kinross multiplex and that an existing, operating multiplex provides an improved provision of DAB coverage for both the public and for stations that may want to exercise the option to utilise that multiplex.</p> <p>We have been in touch with the applicant operator for the Stirling and Falkirk multiplex who have advised that they still have reserved capacity for additional C-DSP licensed stations. We would suggest that Ofcom should assure that, in granting this coverage extension, provision should be included to ensure that reserved capacity is at least maintained or perhaps extended given there may be interested parties from the enhance coverage area who may wish to apply for C-DSP licences because of this extension.</p>