

making communications work for everyone

Your response

Question	Your response
Question 1: Do you agree with the planning principles and methodologies that we will use in our work to refine the coverage area plan for small-scale DAB?	Yes
Question 2: Do you agree with our proposed approach to the required technical licence conditions for small-scale radio multiplex services, and the proposed amendments to the Digital Radio Technical Code?	Yes However I can't see why standard DAB can't also be used along with DAB+ if the multiplex has the capacity and a potential broadcaster requests this format. Having run my own Test and Development multiplex on 9b running 100w erp. I carried out field strength tests in this local area and also with the help of my listeners to BigglesFM obtained signal reports from varying areas of our locality. My conclusion is that 100w is not going to give a satisfactory coverage for the average listener, especially the 13-15km radius you mention in the proposal. It needs to be remembered that digital is either on or off – if the signal is patchy it won't be found on a re-scan and listeners will not keep trying so they will miss out. FM community radio is only just getting power increases it should have had from the start – let's not make the same mistakes again!
Question 3: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposed approach to setting the level of reserved capacity for C-DSP services on small- scale radio multiplex services?	Yes I imagine the 3 spaces would be fine in most situations
Question 4: Do you agree with the factors we are proposing to take into account of in deciding the order and timescale in which Ofcom will advertise small-scale radio multiplex licences?	Yes
Question 5: Do you agree with our proposed approach for assessing the technical plans submitted in small-scale radio multiplex licence applications?	Yes

Question 6: Do you agree with our proposed approach for assessing the ability of applicants to establish their proposed small-scale radio multiplex service?	Yes All of the items you mention help to assess the suitability of the applicant to establish a reliable and sustainable multiplex service.
Question 7: Should Ofcom require that the studio of a C-DSP licensee be located within the coverage area of the small-scale radio multiplex service it plans to broadcast on? Please explain the reasons for your view.	Yes Yes as this licence is effectively a digital version of the present am/fm community licence. BUT - The studio should be located within the coverage area of the 'Town(s)' that the C-DSP licence is issued for. Not necessarily within the whole coverage area of the small scale multiplex as that may cover towns where other C-DSP licences are held.
Question 8: We propose that holders of corresponding analogue community radio and DSP licences apportion their income equally across their licences, unless there are compelling reasons why a different apportionment is reasonable. Do you agree with our suggested approach?	Yes Yes this really has to be otherwise it will be open to abuse and difficult to police by OFCOM. I can't see any reason why a different apportionment might apply.
Question 9: Do you agree with our proposal that a prospective C-DSP service provider will be able to apply for a C-DSP licence once we have invited applications for the small-scale radio multiplex licence upon which their proposed C-DSP service is intended to be provided?	Yes This is a good idea and will help the prospective multiplex operator to plan it's stations and work with the service provider