

Your response

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<p>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?</p>	<p>Broadly in agreement. Need to balance 40% restriction in macro areas against what may be financially viable.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Agree with the principle of restricting to DAB+ only. This will maximise the bandwidth available allowing the carriage of more services. It will also add to the potential financial viability of the multiplex.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Agree as this will ensure accessibility to community radio stations within the multiplex area wishing to gain access to digital platform at an affordable rate.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Concern that the prioritising of areas where numbers of consumers is greatest could adversely affect more rural areas, pushing them to the back of the queue. It is these consumers who traditionally receive lower priority in many other aspects. Requires a balanced approach and could be prioritised according to the popularity and impact on the local area of existing community radio services within the proposed multiplex area.</p>
<p>Question 5: Do you agree with our proposed approach for assessing the technical plans submitted in small-scale radio multiplex licence applications?</p>	<p>Broadly in agreement</p>
<p>Question 6: Do you agree with our proposed approach for assessing the ability of applicants to establish their proposed small-scale radio multiplex service?</p>	<p>In agreement with stated criteria</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Not necessarily. There are community stations which broadcast a service to communities of interest. Requiring the studio to be located within the coverage area of the multiplex would exclude the carriage of this type of</p>

	<p>service. A number of the existing DAB trial services carry services of interest. Imposing this restriction would cause this to cease resulting in a loss of choice to listeners, and loss of revenue in terms of carriage fees to the multiplex operator</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>In agreement with the proposal</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>Broadly in agreement although in applying for and being granted a C-DSP licence, there is no guarantee of when carriage may be available if a multiplex licence has yet to be awarded. Although applications may be invited for a small-scale multiplex licence, there is no certainty that an application would be forthcoming, let alone approved, or when that multiplex would be in service. The decision on taking that risk would be down to the C-DSP service provider in applying for a C-DSP licence.</p>