

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?

In part, YES

Small-scale multiplex operators should be able to provide DAB or DAB+ as they see fit.

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

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?

In part YES, OFCOM should prioritise applicants who show financial readiness in their approach to SSDAB and their plan to begin broadcast. Multiplex applicants should be given first refusal for SSDAB as they will hold the framework for other parties not interested in holding a multiplex to enable more broadcasters to move into digital broadcasting.

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?

In part, YES. OFCOM should show priority to applications who are already broadcasting a community radio service on FM and show interest in simulcasting their service on both FM & SSDAB.

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.

NO, OFCOM should consider licencing C-DSP licensees from outside their provided coverage area providing that the service broadcast is unique and original to the broadcast area. A local aspect must also be considered for this.

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?

In part, YES. FM vs SSDAB broadcast costs are considerably higher for SSDAB and so any fixed revenue income must show support in favour for broadcasters of FM & SSDAB services.

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