

anthony babajee

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Ben Clarke
Ofcom
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SE1 9HA

Dear Mr Clarke

MEASURING PLURALITY ACROSS MEDIA

As a former journalist, first with an RSL local TV service (Taunton TV) and then a BBC local website and radio station (BBC Somerset), I would like to comment on Ofcom's consultation about measuring plurality across the British media.

I would like to see tougher rules on media ownership: I believe that no single person or corporation should be allowed to own more than a fifth of all of the UK's news providers across newspapers, radio and TV stations as well as magazines and websites. Figures from the following organisations should be used to begin to measure media plurality and news market share:

- **Television:** the reach percentage of the highest-rating news programme and/or news channel per broadcaster from BARB
- **Radio:** the total reach percentage of all of a broadcaster's stations from RAJAR; in the case of Sky News Radio, a total of the reach percentages of each radio station it provides the news service for should be taken
- **Newspapers and magazines:** circulation figures from ABC
- **Websites:** reach figures from the digital arm of ABC

The BBC's Royal Charter and its Agreement with the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport set out its public purposes and its independence from the Government. As such, the BBC is clearly a public institution and should not be treated in the same way, for the purposes of measuring media plurality and news market share, as privately owned, commercial broadcasters and press publishers.

I believe that any meetings between politicians, government bodies and media owners should be made public.

I am happy for Ofcom to publish the contents of this letter in full. Thank you for taking the time to include my views in the consultation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Babajee". The letters are connected and fluid, with a large initial 'B'.

Anthony Babajee