

**Title:**

Ms

**Forename:**

Sarah

**Surname:**

Escott

**Representing:**

Self

**Organisation (if applicable):**

**Email:**

**What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:**

Keep nothing confidential

**If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:**

**Ofcom may publish a response summary:**

Yes

**I confirm that I have read the declaration:**

Yes

**Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:**

You may publish my response on receipt

**Additional comments:**

**Question 1: Do you think that allowing Now Digital to extend the coverage area of its Exeter & Torbay local radio multiplex licence to include North Devon would unacceptably narrow the range of DAB programme services available in the Exeter and Torbay area? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

No they remain the same

**Question 2: Do you think that allowing Now Digital to extend the coverage area of its Exeter & Torbay local radio multiplex licence to include North Devon would be calculated to maintain or promote the development of digital sound broadcasting in the UK otherwise than by satellite? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

No view on the matter

**Question 3: Do you think that Now Digital's proposals for providing coverage of North Devon are satisfactory? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

No, it looks like some areas of North Devon will not get coverage, which cannot be acceptable if we are talking about 'progress'

**Question 4: Do you consider that Now Digital has the ability to maintain its local radio multiplex service if its request is granted? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

no view or interest in this

**Question 5: (For programme service providers on the Exeter & Torbay local radio multiplex only) Do you consider that there are sufficient safeguards in place to protect your rights and interests in the event that Now Digital is permitted to extend coverage to include North Devon?:**

no interest in this

**Question 6: Do you consider that there any other grounds on which Ofcom should approve, or not approve, the request from Now Digital? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

I consider OFCOM should NOT approve the request as this will give Heart an automatic right to broadcasting in North Devon "on the promise" that they will provide a digital signal at some point the future. Heart has closed its station in North Devon, now broadcasts from Exeter so its not local and already 'dumbed down' relevant content to us here in North Devon to less than 7hours FOR THE WHOLE OF THE COUNTY. Lantern (then Heart) ran a profitable station from North Devon with good honest LOCAL content and and we want to retain the ability for that to happen again. The FM licence has to to be readvertised to bring a chance of Local Radio back to North Devon again.