

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Scott

Surname:

Glover

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:

Yes

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 - I cannot see how it would effect the services provided in the Exeter or Torbay areas

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 answer.

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 I do not. There are several reasons - firstly the coverage - how can you expand coverage but then not cover the whole area?

Secondly I understand that at some point the FM transmissions will be switched off - where does this leave the areas that cannot receive the DAB transmissions?

And finally and most importantly, where does this leave local radio in North Devon?

North Devon, by its geographic (isolated) nature is quite separate from the rest of the county and considers itself different too. However as far as local radio is concerned we have a "local" service that is broadcast from Exeter and appears to be aimed at the south of the county - assuming that is where the most of their advertising comes from? Anyway it leaves North Devon without a local station. So I also understand that the "local" radio licence holder Heart gets an automatic licence extension should it broadcast on this proposed DAB extension meaning that should a real local station want to apply for the local licence they will be blocked by allowing this DAB move.

Overall leaving North Devon without any local radio.

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.:

I do not have enough background information to give an answer.

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?:

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

See answer to question 3

