

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Brian

Surname:

Greenslade

Representing:

Organisation

Organisation (if applicable):

North Devon Council

Email:

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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.:

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.:

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.

The Council firmly supports the provision of a Local Radio Station for North Devon and wants to see a local FM service for the area. The Council does not believe that the extension of the South Devon Digital multiplex into the North Devon area will provide both the service preferred, and full and adequate coverage of the North Devon area.

North Devon has its own distinct Community with different needs and requirements to that in South Devon.

North Devon is such that with its hilly geography many areas are unable to receive a digital signal. (Only Welsh TV can be received in some areas).

The Council believe this would be a huge injustice and totally unfair to everyone who lives in or visits North Devon. North Devon deserves its own local radio service and comprehensive, area-wide broadcast coverage. The new service will not include Ilfracombe.

On the economic aspect local businesses rely on local advertising and local radio is the perfect medium to reach large parts of the community.

A radio station link elsewhere dilutes the local news stories which currently occurs with the existing arrangement.

The Council asks that the licence to broadcast on FM be re-advertised, so that North Devon can regain a proper local service.

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.:

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 any other grounds on which Ofcom should approve, or not approve, the request from Now Digital? Please explain the reasons for your view.:

The application should be refused for the reasons stated in question 3 above.