

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Basil

Surname:

Ham

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. From the responses given, Exeter and Torbay programming seems to continue as at present

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.:

Yes. North Devon is years behind the rest of Devon in having a local DAB multiplex and at present to receive many of these broadcasts it is necessary to listen on satellite or internet

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.:

Their proposals are better than satisfactory as they are in my opinion excellent. They propose to match Digital One's power output using the BBC aerials which are higher up the Huntshaw mast, thus giving the highest strength output of DAB in the North Devon area

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.:

They have a proven track record in South and East Devon extending over many years and will obviously have the funding required

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?:

As the North Devon multiplex will be on a separate frequency I feel the rights and interests on the Exeter and Torbay areas will remain unaffected

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.:

Local BBC Radio Devon is very important to us here in North Devon and its lack of availability on DAB in this area urges me to the belief that Now Digital's request should be approved at the earliest opportunity