

17 Oak Tree Drive
Whiddon Valley
Barnstaple
North Devon
Barnstaple

13th June 2011

Exeter and Torbay Consultation
F.A.O
Andrea Jackson
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 9HA

Dear Andrea Jackson,

I am writing in conjunction to the proposal of the application to extend the regional South Devon Digital radio service to North Devon and Torridge.

I do not agree with this proposal, as I do not feel it will benefit North Devon in any way.

I, nor any of my family, own a digital radio so switching to a digital signal will mean having to buy new radios just to be able to listen to the radio. Even if we do that we may not get radio signal, as only 53% of households will be able to receive it with the eventual 70% coverage.

As a young driver, I rely upon the radio for traffic and weather updates. Such as the Voice Fm broadcasting during the month of December 2010 when we had a lot of dangerous weather conditions. Having a local radio station made travelling easier as I was able to know which roads to use, if buses were running and also up-dates on the weather.

Extending the digital signal will not only mean that we won't have a chance of having a local radio station, it also means that the current FM license holder will have automatic renewal.

I grew up listening to Lantern FM and when it switched to heart I still listened but only because it had some of our local radio presenters. After they closed the Barnstaple base I refuse to listen, as it is not a local radio station. We do not have regular traffic updates in and around the Barnstaple area, nor do we have any relevant news updates from Heart FM.