

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Mick

Surname:

Southouse

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.:

I have no view of Exeter and Torbay Area's, nor do i wish to.
I don't want to know about something thats happening in Exeter or Torbay, when i live in Barnstaple.

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.:

If you allowed Now Digital to extend it's coverage to North Devon, it surely could not be seen as a promotion of development.

If you broadcast in local area's, then this will be more beneficial, current and provide jobs, economy, trade etc. But, how will Now Digital broadcast from its studio's outside of North Devon to a local listener (end user) i don't know!!!

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.:

If I lived in Plymouth or Torbay or even Exeter, then i would probably say that Now Digital's proposals for providing coverage are good, however, i live in Barnstaple and work in Bideford. All the traffic reports are geared up to the bigger area's like the Torpoint Ferry In Plymouth, Like the M5 into Exeter, like the A38 into the Torbay Area. So no i don't think that the proposals are satisfactory

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.:

It will, probably because of huge amounts of Funding, however, we see again that when we dig down to the bottom of all this it will come to "who has the most amount of money to pump into a radio service without providing a genuine local service".

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 view

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.:

Long ago when North Devon had it's own Lantern FM, it was current, informative, fun, easy to listen to, beneficial. Now however, Now Digital expects us to conform to a standard that the whole of Devon should be listening to. We in North Devon, do not want to know what's happening in Plymouth's Torpoint ferries(hang on a minute i'm driving down the A361 -

there's only 2 ferries working) It doesn't make sense. Recently Barnstaple & Bideford has had a couple of RSL's in the area for short lengths of time, when they were on air, they were very informative, punctual, straight to the point, knew exactly where any traffic hotspots were, gained a trust from us locals with their knowledge of the local area and its customs and traits, but it also played music that wasn't repetitive (especially if it was in the top ten) soothing, fun, memorable. And to think the team behind this radio service "The Voice" work for nothing achieved a following like Now Digital failed to understand. I would also like to point out that when Now Digital took over the Devon networks and turned it into a big white elephant, people were turning off in their droves, and when "The Voice" came on air in the short time that it had, it had a feel like Lantern FM had never gone away just grown up with us locals.