

Dear Andrea,

I have been listening to the debate going on about a local radio station for Barnstaple And fully support The Voice Fm as the only way forward for the Barnstaple area, I work for a housing association and spend a great deal of my working day on the roads of north Devon, it has been a godsend when the local radio is broadcasting to find out about traffic problems so that where possible I can choose a different route to get from A to B, it is also advertising local businesses.

Many years ago we had a local office in Barnstaple for BBC Radio Devon which was good, that was withdrawn by the BBC for reasons I don't know, anyway for years we had no Local station for local traffic news, then along came Radio Lantern FM which was based in Roundswell, this was good news for local people sadly a few years ago Heart Radio took over Lantern and then moved the "Local radio station" to Exeter 50+ miles away.

This situation left the people of north Devon with 2 "local" stations Radio Devon and Heart FM, when local traffic news comes onto the airways it is mostly old news and sometimes inaccurate, Then a miracle was born, Radio based in the centre of Barnstaple THE VOICE FM 107.1 which broadcasts for a short time on a short license, goes off and comes back for another short period, it is back on now until the end of the month and then who knows????

I have read a letter in the North Devon Journal today from Sara Bond, managing director Heart Devon which is good if you live in the Exeter area where the traffic news and other local information is local, the problem we in North Devon are suffering it appears, is Regional stations pretending to be Local to the whole broadcasting area, why oh why can't Occam realise that what North Devon needs is a Local station, we are not a backwater village at the end of the motorway we are part of a very important North Devon Town which has been a borough for 1000 years + surely you can see the importance of granting The Voice FM a full broadcasting license for the people of the area

I look forward to your reply

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.