

**Title:**

**Forename:**

**Surname:**

**Representing:**

Self

**Organisation (if applicable):**

**Email:**

**What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:**

Keep name 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.:**

This should be refused on the poor coverage of DAB that is planned. No thought has been given to Ilfracombe, and the area in which I travel to work at Lynmouth would have no chance of getting a good signal. The plans show Okehampton and I was not aware that this was in North Devon, - in fact i would say west Devon. This extension is supposed to be about North Devon, but would appear to be an attempt to actually increase the coverage sneakily into these areas.

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

Apart from the poor coverage and overall planning and lack of thought given to this proposal, it would enable Heart radio to keep the north Devon licence for another 7 years. They have not provided North Devon with good local radio since they closed Barnstaple studio last August. The presenters that we all knew were gone, and we now get programmes from Exeter where they do not know our area at all. The information when I was travelling to work in the winter in the snow was non-existent. We have been used to all these kind of things, which make local radio. Heart is far from bringing anything near local, - apart from the very occasional news story to keep North Devon on their radar, and local adverts pushed in here and there. What a dismal end to the local station Lantern FM!

I would like to see the local radio licence for FM re-advertised as was promised, to give others a chance of putting forward plans to give us our local radio back. Nobody can be worse than Heart!

For the reason given above, please REJECT this particular DAB proposal. Only at such time when someone can provide it properly to everybody, should it be allowed, - and certainly not at the expense of us getting a continuation of poor so called local radio from Heart.