

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Robert

Surname:

Malek

Representing:

Organisation

Organisation (if applicable):

Barnstaple Wimpy

Email:

partners@malek.uk.com

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.:

no, Exeter & Torbay has much greater population so therefore it will get what suits it whether the area is widened or not

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.:

don't think so, it reduces diversity of radio choice in that it makes it more of a regional radio than local radio.

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.:

no, our more remote and more hilly area is only now just adequate in FM cover, with DAB I believe it would create much larger areas where DAB cannot be received.

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.:

don't know

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?:

n/a to me

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.:

no. it should not be approved, I am concerned that since Lantern Radio - (a true local radio station) has morphed into the current regional radio - Heart; the North Devon area does not have its own radio station, has loss of local traffic, doesn't have local updates when there was snow (ie school closures) and we have listen to adverts for businesses 60 or 70 miles away. I want to listen to local radio, advertise my business to people locally not 2 or 3 hours away and believe that a FM licence may well be the best way to achieve this.