

This is without doubt the single most disappointing business decision to be made by TLRC.

Durham had been without it's own station for some 35 years, and as everyone knows, the City in particular is vastly different in it's culture to any other in the region. The identity of the station, which was to reflect the issues of County Durham, I fear, will be lost should such a move be allowed.

I can't think of anything more hypocritical than 'the station that lives and loves Durham' (as the sweep tells us) being broadcast from Sunderland!!

It's bad enough that much of the weekend and evening programming is now networked from 'Down South', without ripping out the last remnants of a growing favourite with listeners within the County (Rajar figure prove this).

From day 1, TLRC has let the station down with a severe lack in marketing funding, and I feel that had they got things right from the start, I wouldn't be venting my frustration at the situation now.

I urge OFCOM, to throw this ridiculous request out, and to advise TLRC to nurture what they have at 'The County's' Durham FM.

Question 1: Should Ofcom accept that the level of exceptional circumstances as outlined by The Local Radio Company is such that we should agree to the co-location of Durham FM in Sunderland? (Financial information has been forwarded in confidence to Ofcom):

Categorically, no.