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I wish to make the following short observations regarding the proposed new BBC extended radio services.

1. BBC Radio Services should **not** be expanded until the whole BBC funding/ licence fee issue has been reviewed and resolved.
2. At present, BBC radio is funded by television viewers who are obliged to purchase a licence to view. These viewers may or may not listen to radio, but some of this money is nevertheless used by the BBC to fund its radio services. Conversely, a radio listener who does not watch live tv, and requires no licence, gets BBC radio services free of charge, paid for by tv viewers.
3. Given the above circumstances, the BBC should not be expanding radio services without a bespoke funding arrangement for radio, that does not compromise monies paid for tv viewing.
4. Unlike other radio services, the BBC does not have to earn its income, and thus produces commercial-free output, with an inbuilt advantage over independent rivals.
5. I particularly object to the BBC's proposals For Radio 2 Xtra. The BBC has consciously ditched older listeners (such as I) by withdrawing music from the 50s, 60s and 70s from Radio 2, as well as the local stations. The vacuum created by this has been adequately filled by independent stations with a variety of "genre" stations, including Gold, Absolute 60s, Caroline Flashback etc. The most important of these is Boom Radio, the first station with fully live presentation, aimed entirely at the older listener. It has been well documented in the press how many former Radio 2 followers now tune to Boom. This station is self financed, and has taken great commercial risk to serve the older listeners whom the BBC rejected. Now the BBC has seen that there is a market for older listeners after all, they want a piece of the action. Or more likely, to diminish the upstart Boom Radio to the point where it is no longer viable in this niche market. The BBC's music proposals appear to be identical to Boom's (50s, 60s, 70s), and with their financial clout (funded by tv viewers), they will produce an imitative service commercial-free, which is hugely unfair to Boom and others. Why should public money be used to provide a service which is patently being adequately provided **already** at no cost to the listener/ viewer?
6. In conclusion, I am very worried about this, and the BBC's intentions to harm competition by using its unique advantages. I urge Ofcom to turn down all these applications, but especially Radio 2 Xtra.