

Mr N Stock - Head of Radio Planning Of co m
Riverside House
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23 February, 2004

Dear Mr Stock

A few years ago we had broadcasts from a trial station in Falmouth. This station called itself CKFM and was a welcome competitor to Radio Cornwall. Therefore it came as a surprise when they then put on another trial broadcast from Camborne. Consequently I made enquires as to what was going on and was informed that a new regulator was to be appointed - hence the delay - which must have cost CKFM a small fortune to keep ticking over in anticipation of a promising final report.

Having now waited all this time I understand that the regulator is proposing a part Devon/Comwall licence. This can't be so can it? Cornwall is a very long county with the longest coastline in the country. Although its population may not be large compared to the home counties, it doubles in the holiday season. Many a tourist, particularly the Americans, are surprised how long it takes to get to Helston from the M5.

To tourists, Cornwall is set apart from Devon by its history of Mining, Fishing and stories of ghosts and smuggling etc.

I have only lived in Cornwall for 7 years but it is clear to me that the Cornish are proud of their heritage and I believe that their own Commercial Radio Station will help to improve their self esteem and through the local advertisements make them more aware of the job and business opportunities down here. This in itself would support the good work being done to regenerate the towns and villages via the grants and ED. Objective One resources being put in down here.

I realize that you have other considerations to think about when issuing a licence but I believe this is an opportunity for Cornwall (particularly West Cornwall) that must not be missed.

If the final decision remains with a Devon/Cornwall mix station then presumably, with consideration to fair competition BBC Cornwall will become BBC Devon/Cornwall!

I look forward to a favourable outcome for Cornwall in the very near future and that all the hard work that CKFM have put in comes to fruition.

Yours sincerely

JOHN BARLOW