

Cover sheet for response to an Ofcom consultation

BASIC DETAILS

Consultation title: Radio Review Radio – Preparing for the future

To (Ofcom contact): Peter Davies

Name of respondent: Dr Hugh Gough

Representing (self or organisation/s): myself

Address (if not received by email):

Bit Rates, particularly on DAB

I would like to comment, please, about the audio quality of digital radio, particularly on DAB.

In section 7.8d (p143) you discuss technical quality issues (eg. bitrates) and I think it is important that you ensure the broadcasters maintain audio quality and that you give them the means to do so.

Figure 78 (p131) shows that nearly two-thirds of people think that the main advantage of digital radio is better sound quality. Nearly the same proportion also thinks that this is the main benefit too. Whilst much effort is going into giving good reception to people, this is spoilt by the medium-wave quality bit rates used.