

LOCAL RADIO SERVICE UNDERGOING CHANGE OF CONTROL: REVIEW OF EFFECTS OF CHANGE OF CONTROL

(in accordance with sections 355 & 356 of the Communications Act 2003)

AL200/1 – CENTURY 106 (East Midlands)

EXISTING FORMAT

Description of Service:

A FULL-SERVICE TALK AND MUSIC STATION WITH 24-HOUR NEWS FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS REGION, TARGETING PRIMARILY 30-54 YEAR-OLDS.

Detail:

Speech is a very important part of this regional service, and should be challenging as well as reflecting what is happening in the region. For instance, there will be at least three hours of daily weekday phone-ins and some Saturday sport as appropriate. Speech will usually fall between not less than a third and a half of the daytime output with weekends and non-daytime not less than a fifth. There will be 24-hour news bulletins, and at least during peak-time these will each be at least five minutes long. They will include local/regional news from at least 0600 to 2200 weekday and peak-time weekends. . Music can be up to 50% adult contemporary, with the remainder made up from a mix of modern easy listening, classic easy listening and Soul/Motown. Specialist music which complements the main mix may be broadcast outside daytime.

REVIEW OF EXISTING PROGRAMME SERVICE

Scheduling and duration of any specific programmes (music, speech, local or linguistic) required by the Format.

The requirement for a daily phone-in has been met by means of a daily (weekdays) football phone-in between 1800-1930hrs, together with other phone-in elements throughout the day.

Content, duration and scheduling of any specific programmes (music, speech, local or linguistic) the station has currently or recently been broadcasting not specifically required by the Format

None.

Quantity of programming currently automated, and when scheduled.

*Wednesdays/Thursdays/Fridays, 0100-0600hrs
Saturdays, 0000-0700hrs
Sundays, 0100-0700hrs*

Quantity of programming currently being broadcast that is syndicated and/or networked, and when scheduled.

*Pat Sharpe Evening Show: Mondays-Thursdays, 1930-2200hrs
Century Chart with Darren Proctor: Saturdays, 1000-1300hrs*

Hairbrush Divas with Debbie Mac: Saturdays, 1800-2200hrs

Arrangements in place for the compilation, production and presentation of local news (e.g. any sharing of resources with other radio stations, local newspapers or other sources).

Locally produced news broadcast at least every hour between 0600-2200hrs weekdays, 0700-1400hrs weekends, with additional headlines bulletins in peaktime. Peaktime bulletins are generally of 5 mins. duration with an extended bulletin (20 mins.) each weekday evening at 1735hrs.

ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS OF CHANGE OF CONTROL IN RELATION TO:

i) local material and locally-made programmes:

It appears to Ofcom that the relevant change of control would not be prejudicial to the provision of local material or locally-made programmes.

ii) character of the service:

It appears to Ofcom that the relevant change of control would not be prejudicial to the character of the service.

iii) quality and range of programmes included in the service:

It appears to Ofcom that the relevant change of control would not be prejudicial to the quality and range of programmes included in the service.

SUGGESTED VARIATIONS TO THE LICENCE (IF ANY)

None.

05 January 2006