

## Statement on L-DTPS coverage area change – York

Ofcom considered a request from Comux UK limited, the holder of the local multiplex licence, and Hello York CIC, the successful applicant for the local digital television programme service (L-DTPS) licence for York,<sup>1</sup> to change the ‘York’ coverage area by deploying an alternative site and a different technical arrangement to those originally envisaged.

Ofcom noted that the proposed substitution to the alternative transmitter location will significantly increase the likelihood that households in York would be able to receive the local TV service. It considered that this would have a positive impact on the viability of both the local service and the local multiplex (which is the means by which the L-DTPS is distributed), and noted that the change would not result in any significant increase in overlap between the York local TV service and other local TV services.

Ofcom considered that the requested coverage change would not affect its assessment at the time of the licence award that the proposed service fell within the statutory description of an L-DTPS, and that it met the conditions for such services under the statutory scheme. Ofcom was also satisfied that the requested change would not impact on the ability of Hello York CIC to deliver and maintain the Programming Commitments proposed in its application at the time of the licence award.

Ofcom noted the proposal is for a substitute location (rather than an addition or enhancement to an existing arrangement) that will not increase spectrum use while delivering better coverage in York than would have been delivered by the arrangement originally envisaged.

Taking these factors into account, Ofcom approved the proposed change. Given the exceptional circumstances pertaining to this substitution, the coverage change will be included in the local multiplex licence for its full duration and will not be subject to a time limit of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018<sup>2</sup>.

### Next steps

Ofcom will vary the local multiplex licence to include the revised technical parameters for the York coverage area and publish a variation note to this effect. Ofcom anticipates that the York service will launch by its agreed launch date, i.e. in July 2016.

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<sup>1</sup> Ofcom decided to award the L-DTPS licence for York to One&Other TV CIC. The company subsequently changed its name to Hello York CIC. Ofcom’s original award decision can be found here: <http://licensing.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/tv/local-tv/applicants/York.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Ofcom’s position on the availability of spectrum for coverage extensions and the use of additional frequencies for local TV is published online: <http://licensing.ofcom.org.uk/tv-broadcast-licences/local/coverage/position-coverage-extensions>