
Local TV Limited

Request to change programming commitments

CONSULTATION

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1. Overview

Local TV Limited (“Local TV”) holds a number of local digital television programme service licences across the UK. The services provided under these licences must meet specific content obligations set out in the licence, known as ‘programming commitments’.

Local TV Limited has made a request to Ofcom to change the programming commitments in seven of its licences, as follows:

- Birmingham TV
- Bristol TV
- Cardiff TV
- Leeds TV
- Liverpool TV
- Tyne and Wear TV
- Teesside TV

What we are proposing – in brief

We have decided that, in each case, the changes requested by Local TV Limited amount to a departure from the character of the licensed service. This notice sets out details of Local TV’s proposals and invites representation from people who may be affected by these changes.

We have taken a preliminary view on the requests. We are minded to grant them for the reasons outlined in this document. However, we are seeking views on the requests before we make final decisions. The period for making representations closes at **5pm on 05 April 2022**.

2. Details and background information

- 2.1 Local TV Limited submitted these requests to Ofcom on 18 January 2022 in relation to seven of its local digital television programme service (“L-DTPS”) licences.
- 2.2 The seven licences are those for Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, Teesside and Tyne and Wear.
- 2.3 The licence for each local TV service contains a set of programming commitments, which describe the type and volume of locally-relevant programming which the licensees are required to provide. These commitments are made by the licensee as part of their application for the licence.
- 2.4 Licensees can ask Ofcom to change their programming commitments in accordance with their licence conditions and relevant statutory provisions. These are described below.
- 2.5 These variation requests concern the programming commitments which reflect the character of the licensed service, particularly those relating to first-run local programming (including local news and current affairs programming).
- 2.6 We will take into account all representations made in response to this notice (whether they concern individual services or all of the requests taken as a whole) in deciding whether or not to consent to the requested changes. Ofcom will make individual decisions for each of the seven requested variations.
- 2.7 In this section, we set out:
 - a) the legal framework applicable to Ofcom’s consideration of changes to programming commitments in L-DTPS licences;
 - b) an overview of the changes requested by Local TV Limited.

Legal Framework

- 2.8 Section 19(3A)(c) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 (the “Act”) requires Ofcom to include in L-DTPS licences conditions for securing that the character of the licensed service, as proposed by the licence holder when making the application for that licence, is maintained for the duration of the licence.
- 2.9 We therefore include in condition 5(1) of every L-DTPS licence a requirement that, for the duration of the licence, the licensee must maintain the character of the licensed service in accordance with the programming commitments set out in the licence.
- 2.10 The circumstances in which we may allow a change to the character of the licensed service are limited by section 19(3B) of the Act. As a result, condition 5(2) of all L-DTPS licences provides that Ofcom may, following the procedure set out in the Act, only consent to a departure from the character of the licensed service if it is satisfied that:
 - a) The departure would not substantially alter the character of the licensed service;
 - b) The departure would not unacceptably reduce the number and range of programmes about the area or locality for which the service is licensed;

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- c) The departure would not unacceptably reduce the number of programmes made in the area of locality for which the service is licensed; and
- d) The service would continue to meet the needs of the area or locality for which the service is licensed.

2.11 Before deciding whether to consent to a departure from the character of a licensed service on any of the grounds set out above, Ofcom is required by section 19(3C) of the Act to publish a notice specifying:

- a) The proposed departure; and
- b) The period in which representations may be made to Ofcom about the proposal. This period must end later than 28 days after the publication of this notice.

2.12 This document constitutes that notice.

The Variation Requests

2.13 The quantitative changes requested by Local TV Limited for each of the seven licences are summarised in the table below:

	Changes to local programming per week (First-run)	Changes to local programming per week (Repeats)	Changes to hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming per week (First-run)	Changes to hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming per week (Repeats)
Birmingham	Current: 35 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 5 hours	Current: 20 hours Proposed: 10.5 hours	Current: 3 hours Proposed: 1 hour
Bristol	Current: 37 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 5 hours	Current: 8 Hours	Current: 1 hour
Cardiff	Current: 37 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 5 hours	Current: 8 Hours	Current: 1 hour
Leeds	Current: 37 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 5 hours	Current: 8 Hours	Current: 1 hour
Liverpool	Current: 35 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 5 hours	Current: 10 hours Proposed: 8 hours	Current: 7 hours Proposed: 1 hour

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	Changes to local programming per week (First-run)	Changes to local programming per week (Repeats)	Changes to hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming per week (First-run)	Changes to hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming per week (Repeats)
Teesside	Current: 37 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 5 hours	Current: 12 hours Proposed: 8 hours	Current: 2 hours Proposed: 1 hour
Tyne and Wear	Current: 37 hours Proposed: 21 hours	Current: 21 hours Proposed: 2 hours	Current: 8 Hours	Current: 1 hour

- 2.14 In addition, Local TV Limited has proposed some amendments to the qualitative “programming output” section of each of the programming commitments. Non-confidential versions of each variation request can be found at Annex A5.
- 2.15 Ofcom considered that the amendments requested in the variation requests would, in each case, amount to a departure from the character of the service. The effect of the requests is to reduce the amount of local first-run programming (including local news and current affairs programming), which may result in more non-local content being broadcast on the service and thus change the ‘character of service.’ Ofcom is therefore issuing a public consultation seeking views on the variation requests.

3. Consideration of the Variation Requests

- 3.1 As set out in section 2 of this consultation, Ofcom may allow a change to the character of a licensed local TV service if it is satisfied that the criteria set out in section 19(3B) of the Act are met. This section of the consultation document sets out:
- a) a summary of Local TV Limited's reasons for making the Variation Requests;
 - b) Ofcom's approach to considering the requests; and,
 - c) our preliminary view on the Variation Requests, having regard to the statutory criteria.

Local TV's reasons for the Variation Requests

- 3.2 Local TV Limited has stated that the purpose of the variation requests is to "standardise requirements across licences it holds, as well as bringing Local TV's commitments in line with other LTVN [Local TV Network] providers."
- 3.3 Local TV Limited argues it is committed to serving local audiences and will "continue its structure of rolling local news, sports and entertainment," and that "audiences can expect just as much local content as they have always had, with content better serving audiences through greater flexibility within the schedule."

Ofcom's approach

- 3.4 In considering these requests, we have been mindful of the cumulative effect of the various different changes set out in the variation requests, together with the original commitments proposed by the relevant licensee when the licences were first awarded.
- 3.5 We also had regard to our [May 2012 statement](#) which set out how we intended to exercise our powers and duties to license new local television services. It outlines our minimum expectation for broadcast local news coverage, namely that "we would be unlikely to consider less than seven hours in total of broadcast news per week to be too burdensome for even the smallest L-DTPS licensee..." (page 5, section 1.47).
- 3.6 We had regard to this statement when considering the requests relating to the proposed reductions in first-run local programming. In its requests, Local TV Limited proposes that its commitment to first-run local programming is reduced by 43% for the Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Tyne and Wear and Teesside services, and a slightly smaller reduction of 40% for the Birmingham and Liverpool services (as their current commitments are slightly higher).
- 3.7 We also note that in respect of first-run local news and current affairs programming, the requests for the Liverpool and Teesside services is to reduce this to eight hours per week, and for the Birmingham service to 10.5 hours per week. No change is proposed for the Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds or Tyne & Wear services, which will remain at eight hours per week.

Ofcom's preliminary view

3.8 We are minded to consent to each of the requests from Local TV Limited because in our preliminary view the proposed variations would:

- not substantially alter the character of the licensed service;
- not unacceptably reduce the number and range of programmes about the area or locality for which the service is licensed;
- not unacceptably reduce the number of programmes made in the area of locality for which the service is licensed; and
- continue to meet the needs of the area or locality for which the service is licensed.

3.9 We have also had regard to the sustainability of these services. This is an important factor; Ofcom is prepared to support the local TV sector by being flexible when considering reduction requests relating to programming commitments.

3.10 We recognise, however, that this needs to be balanced against the fact that reductions in commitments run the risk of increasing the volume of non-local content being broadcast on the services.

3.11 What follows is an explanation of our rationale for our preliminary view against each of the relevant statutory criteria.

Ground (a): that the departure would not substantially alter the character of the service

3.12 In its proposal, Local TV Limited argues that:

- it is committed to serving local audiences, covering news, sport, and entertainment within the local area. It will continue its structure of rolling local news, sports and entertainment, so the character of service across the licences will not substantially change; and that
- audiences can still expect just as much local content as they have always had, with content better serving audiences through greater flexibility within the schedule.

3.13 After careful consideration, we are of the view that the amount of local programming required to be provided by each service would still be sufficiently high to deliver the minimum expected amount of local content as articulated in our statement of May 2012, and that there would still remain a commitment to delivering first-run local news and current affairs.

3.14 In respect of each service, we consider that most viewers would be unlikely to notice any significant change to the service. The proposals would still commit the licensee to broadcast a substantial proportion of its local programming within peak hours, thus maintaining the characters of service for all licences. While the total volume of first-run local programming would be reduced, we appreciate that the repetitive nature of the programming output would also reduce, resulting in better quality of news and current affairs being offered to viewers in the first instance.

3.15 We note that Local TV Limited has proposed a reduction of more than 50% in its commitment to broadcast repeats of local content. Although we acknowledge that repeated content allows viewers to 'catch up' on the local content provided by the licensed

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service, and such content therefore has a role in defining the character of the service, this is likely to be less important and have less of an impact than securing an acceptable amount of first-run local programming. We therefore consider that this proposed reduction in repeat programming would not be a substantial departure from the character of the licensed services.

3.16 In our view, securing an acceptable amount of first-run local programming, both in peaktime and across the service as a whole, plays a significant factor in the character of the service, with less importance placed against repeated programming.

3.17 Therefore, we are satisfied on a preliminary basis that, if we were to consent to the departure in each case, the changes included in the proposal would not substantially alter the character of each service.

Ground (b): that the departure would not unacceptably reduce the number and range of the programmes about the area or locality for which the service is licensed

3.18 We recognise that the number (and potentially the range) of programmes made about each of the localities served by the licences included in this request are likely to be reduced if these changes are approved, but we do not think these reductions would be unacceptable given that all services have committed to continue to cover local content, including local news and sport and entertainment within the local areas and would still be required to provide 21 hours per week of first-run local programming (of which at least eight¹ will be local news and current affairs).

3.19 We do not consider that the proposed changes to the qualitative programming output section of the programming commitments in each licence would in themselves result in an unacceptable reduction in the number and range of programmes about the local area. Although we note a specific commitment that “Religious groups will be featured regularly across news and entertainment” is proposed to be removed from the Liverpool licence, we consider that such involvement is likely to continue in some form as the service will still be required to “reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community”.

3.20 We are therefore satisfied on a preliminary basis that, if we were to consent to the departure from the character of service for each licence, it would not unacceptably reduce the number and range of programmes made about the area or locality for which each of the services is licensed.

Ground (c): that the departure would not unacceptably reduce the number of programmes made in the area or locality for which the service is licensed

3.21 For the reasons highlighted in the above section, while we recognise that the number and range of programmes may reduce as a result of the changes requested, we are satisfied on a preliminary basis that any reduction would not unacceptably reduce the number of programmes made in each area. All programmes made for the purpose of broadcasting on

¹ 10.5 hours, in the case of the Birmingham service.

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a specific service are made within the licensed area of the service; this variation request is not intended to alter this characteristic.

Ground (d): that the service would continue to meet the needs of the area of locality for which the service is licensed

3.22 Local TV argues that all services included in this request would continue to meet the needs of the area for which they serve. Local TV Limited says it will continue to give local audiences a voice on stories that matter to them. It will continue to cover local news, sport and entertainment, focusing on issues that matter to the local communities.

3.23 For all the reasons set out above, we are satisfied on a preliminary basis that, if we were to consent to the departure from the character of service in each case, each service would continue to meet the needs of the area of locality. In particular, we consider that the changes being requested will provide the licensee with greater flexibility to provide the necessary focus on the local content that viewers find most valuable.

Ofcom's preliminary decisions on whether to consent to the departure from the licensed services

3.24 For the reasons listed above, we are minded to approve the requests submitted by Local TV Limited. We are seeking representations on this preliminary view, and comments on the individual variation requests for each of the seven services, which we will take into account when we make our final decisions.

A1. Responding to this consultation

How to respond

- A1.1 Ofcom would like to receive views and comments on the issues raised in this document, by 5pm on 05 April 2022.
- A1.2 You can [download a response form](#) from the Ofcom website. You can return this by email or post to the address provided in the response form.
- A1.3 If your response is a large file, or has supporting charts, tables or other data, please email it to localtvlimitedconsultation@ofcom.org.uk, as an attachment in Microsoft Word format, together with the [cover sheet](#). This email address is for this consultation only, and will not be valid after 05 April 2022.
- A1.4 Responses may alternatively be posted to the address below, marked with the title of the consultation:
- F.A.O Ofcom Broadcast Licensing Team
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
- A1.5 We welcome responses in formats other than print, for example an audio recording or a British Sign Language video. To respond in BSL:
- send us a recording of you signing your response. This should be no longer than 5 minutes. Suitable file formats are DVDs, wmv or QuickTime files; or
 - upload a video of you signing your response directly to YouTube (or another hosting site) and send us the link.
- A1.6 We will publish a transcript of any audio or video responses we receive (unless your response is confidential)
- A1.7 We do not need a paper copy of your response as well as an electronic version. We will acknowledge receipt of a response submitted to us by email.
- A1.8 You do not have to answer all the questions in the consultation if you do not have a view; a short response on just one point is fine. We also welcome joint responses.
- A1.9 It would be helpful if your response could include answers to the question asked in this document. The question is listed at Annex 4. It would also help if you could explain why you hold your views, and what you think the effect of Ofcom's proposals would be.
- A1.10 If you want to discuss the issues and questions raised in this consultation, please contact Amna Malik directly by email to amna.malik@ofcom.org.uk

Confidentiality

- A1.11 Consultations are more effective if we publish the responses before the consultation period closes. In particular, this can help people and organisations with limited resources or familiarity with the issues to respond in a more informed way. So, in the interests of transparency and good regulatory practice, and because we believe it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other respondents' views, we usually publish responses on [the Ofcom website](#) at regular intervals during and after the consultation period.
- A1.12 If you think your response should be kept confidential, please specify which part(s) this applies to, and explain why. Please send any confidential sections as a separate annex. If you want your name, address, other contact details or job title to remain confidential, please provide them only in the cover sheet, so that we don't have to edit your response.
- A1.13 If someone asks us to keep part or all of a response confidential, we will treat this request seriously and try to respect it. But sometimes we will need to publish all responses, including those that are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations.
- A1.14 To fulfil our pre-disclosure duty, we may share a copy of your response with the relevant government department before we publish it on our website. This is the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for postal matters, and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) for all other matters.
- A1.15 Please also note that copyright and all other intellectual property in responses will be assumed to be licensed to Ofcom to use. Ofcom's intellectual property rights are explained further in our [Terms of Use](#).

Next steps

- A1.16 Following this consultation period, Ofcom plans to publish a statement in late April or early May 2022.
- A1.17 If you wish, you can [register to receive mail updates](#) alerting you to new Ofcom publications.

Ofcom's consultation processes

- A1.18 Ofcom aims to make responding to a consultation as easy as possible. For more information, please see our consultation principles in Annex 2.
- A1.19 If you have any comments or suggestions on how we manage our consultations, please email us at consult@ofcom.org.uk. We particularly welcome ideas on how Ofcom could more effectively seek the views of groups or individuals, such as small businesses and residential consumers, who are less likely to give their opinions through a formal consultation.
- A1.20 If you would like to discuss these issues, or Ofcom's consultation processes more generally, please contact the corporation secretary:

Corporation Secretary
Ofcom
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA
Email: corporationsecretary@ofcom.org.uk

A2. Ofcom's consultation principles

Ofcom has seven principles that it follows for every public written consultation:

Before the consultation

A2.1 Wherever possible, we will hold informal talks with people and organisations before announcing a big consultation, to find out whether we are thinking along the right lines. If we do not have enough time to do this, we will hold an open meeting to explain our proposals, shortly after announcing the consultation.

During the consultation

A2.2 We will be clear about whom we are consulting, why, on what questions and for how long.

A2.3 We will make the consultation document as short and simple as possible, with an overview of no more than two pages. We will try to make it as easy as possible for people to give us a written response.

A2.4 We will consult for up to ten weeks, depending on the potential impact of our proposals.

A2.5 A person within Ofcom will be in charge of making sure we follow our own guidelines and aim to reach the largest possible number of people and organisations who may be interested in the outcome of our decisions. Ofcom's Consultation Champion is the main person to contact if you have views on the way we run our consultations.

A2.6 If we are not able to follow any of these seven principles, we will explain why.

After the consultation

A2.7 We think it is important that everyone who is interested in an issue can see other people's views, so we usually publish the responses on our website at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. After the consultation we will make our decisions and publish a statement explaining what we are going to do, and why, showing how respondents' views helped to shape these decisions.

A3. Consultation coversheet

BASIC DETAILS

Consultation title:

To (Ofcom contact):

Name of respondent:

Representing (self or organisation/s):

Address (if not received by email):

CONFIDENTIALITY

Please tick below what part of your response you consider is confidential, giving your reasons why

Nothing

Name/contact details/job title

Whole response

Organisation

Part of the response

If there is no separate annex, which parts? _____

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation not to be published, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

DECLARATION

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response that Ofcom can publish. However, in supplying this response, I understand that Ofcom may need to publish all responses, including those which are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom aims to publish responses at regular intervals during and after the consultation period. If your response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and you would prefer us to publish your response only once the consultation has ended, please tick here.

Name

Signed (if hard copy)

A4. Consultation questions

- A4.1 Ofcom is seeking views on these variation requests. Ofcom may consent to a departure from the character of each of the licensed services only if it is satisfied that none of the criteria set out in 19(3B) of the Act and condition 5(2) of all L-DTPS licences are met.
- A4.2 In light of the considerations set out in section three of this document, Ofcom is minded to provide consent to a departure from each of the characters of service for the seven licences included in this request.

Respondents are invited to comment on whether they agree with Ofcom's preliminary decisions and to frame their views and responses with reference to, or in the context of, the statutory criteria in section 19(3B) of the Broadcasting Act and condition 5(2) of L-DTPS licences.

A5. Variation requests from Local TV Limited

Variation Request – Birmingham TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The service will focus on core news and current affairs output in the initial period of operation. The service will be as inclusive as possible, forming partnerships with communities to deliver hyper local news coverage. Producers from the community will be trained to deliver content about their areas on an ongoing basis. Resource and airtime will be provided to hear the voices of these communities.</p> <p>The majority of news bulletins will be live (debate shows will be pre-recorded) with as many links to events around the Licensed Area as possible.</p> <p>The proportion of evening feature led and factual/entertainment programming will be high and repeats will be stable once the core news and current affairs schedule is established.</p> <p>The service’s programme schedule will include:</p>	<p>The service’s programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of “home-produced” general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what’s on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what’s on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• daily sports news, business round ups within news programmes and a weekly dedicated business news programme• a minimum 60 minutes early evening news on weekdays• a minimum 30-minutes mid evening news on weekdays• a minimum 60 minutes news on weekend days augmented by current affairs and debate shows• The news quota to include short news bulletins, at least 10 times per day	<p>weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, local opinion, entertainment and news</p> <p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

Hours of local programming per week: First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 41 hours per week	Year 2: 41.5 hours per week	Year 3: 35 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 41 hours per week	Year 2: 41.5 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
Hours of local programming per week: Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 40 hours per week	Year 2: 40 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 40 hours per week	Year 2: 40 hours per week	Year 3: 5 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		

Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 20 hours per week	Year 2: 23 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 20 hours per week	Year 2: 23 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 4.5 hours per week	Year 2: 4.5 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 4.5 hours per week	Year 2: 4.5 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 27 hours per week	Year 2: 27	Year 3: 20

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 27 hours per week	Year 2: 27 hours per week	Year 3: 10.5 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences.		
Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 3 hours per week	Year 2: 3 hours per week	Year 3: 3 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 3 hours per week	Year 2: 3 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hour per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its current format of rolling local news, sports and entertainment. The purpose of Local TV's request is to standardise requirements across licences it holds, as well as bringing Local TV's commitments in line with other LTVN providers. Reducing the repeat requirement allows Local TV to prioritise original local content, rather than opting against more local content because of the limitations set by the existing requirements.		

Variation Request – Bristol TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The service’s programming schedule will be locally focused.</p> <p>The service will include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of “home-produced” general interest programming and acquired content that is in keeping with the lifestyle and information style of the service. At a local level news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p> <p>The service will cater for the local audience by including regular local news bulletins, with an average of 25 x 90 second local news and what’s on bulletins per day and a regular feed of local fillers including event guides and vox-pops.</p> <p>Local event guides and vox-pops will be filmed periodically and broadcast during the day.</p>	<p>The service’s programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of “home-produced” general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what’s on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what’s on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

<p>The service's output will support local business by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Exclusively local content will make up approximately 40% of the schedule, with programming shared with other L-DTPS licensees contributing approximately 20% and the remaining airtime being a blend of acquisitions and commercial content.</p> <p>First-run programming will make up 2 hours of the evening schedule with a further 7hrs (repeats) of local content throughout the day.</p> <p>The programme output will feature the following topics: celebrity, motoring, health, home improvement, history, crime, cinema, food, recruitment, tourism, council, nightlife, local opinion, property, entertainment, local personalities, sport, current affairs, traffic, weather, events and news.</p>	<p>local opinion, entertainment and news</p> <p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

	Hours of local programming per week: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 37 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 27 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
	Hours of local programming per week: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 5 hours per week

Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 1 hours per week	Year 2: 1 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		

Variation Request - Cardiff TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The service's programming schedule will be locally focused.</p> <p>The service will include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of "home-produced" general interest programming and acquired content that is in keeping with the lifestyle and information style of the service.</p> <p>At a local level news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p> <p>The service will cater for the local audience by including regular local news bulletins, with an average of 25 x 90 second local news and what's on bulletins per day and a regular feed of local fillers including event guides and vox-pops.</p> <p>Local event guides and vox-pops will be filmed periodically and broadcast during the day.</p> <p>The service's output will support local business by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p>	<p>The service's programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of "home-produced" general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, local opinion, entertainment and news 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what's on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what's on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

<p>Exclusively local content will make up approximately 40% of the schedule, with programming shared with other L-DTPS licensees contributing approximately 15% and the remaining airtime being a blend of acquisitions and commercial content. First-run programming will make up 2 hours of the evening schedule with a further 7hrs (repeats) of local content throughout the day.</p> <p>The programme output will feature the following topics: celebrity, motoring, health, home improvement, history, crime, cinema, food, recruitment, tourism, council, nightlife, local opinion, property, entertainment, local personalities, sport, current affairs, traffic, weather, events and news.</p>	<p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

	Hours of local programming per week: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 37 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
	Hours of local programming per week: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 5 hours per week

Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		

Variation Request – Leeds TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The service’s programming schedule will be locally focused.</p> <p>The service will include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of “home-produced” general interest programming and acquired content that is in keeping with the lifestyle and information style of the service.</p> <p>At a local level news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p> <p>The service will cater for the local audience by including regular local news bulletins, with an average of 25 x 90 second local news and what’s on bulletins per day and a regular feed of local fillers including event guides and vox-pops.</p> <p>Local event guides and vox-pops will be filmed periodically and broadcast during the day.</p> <p>The service’s output will support local business by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p>	<p>The service’s programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of “home-produced” general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, local opinion, entertainment and news 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what’s on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what’s on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

<p>Exclusively local content will make up approximately 40% of the schedule, with programming shared with other L-DTPS licensees contributing approximately 15% and the remaining airtime being a blend of acquisitions and commercial content. First-run programming will make up 2 hours of the evening schedule with a further 7hrs (repeats) of local content throughout the day.</p> <p>The programme output will feature the following topics: celebrity, motoring, health, home improvement, history, crime, cinema, food, recruitment, tourism, council, nightlife, local opinion, property, entertainment, local personalities, sport, current affairs, traffic, weather, events and news.</p>	<p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

	Hours of local programming per week: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 37 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
	Hours of local programming per week: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 5 hours per week

Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		

Variation Request – Liverpool TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The main emphasis of the service will be on local news and entertainment content.</p> <p>From Year 1: The service will include four and a half hours per week of locally-produced features on topics ranging from current affairs and politics to gardening and cycling. One new local feature programme will be added to the schedule each weekday. These local feature programmes will be repeated in a variety of dayparts. On Friday the service will extend its hours adding an hour each of sport, a chat show and topical debate. On Saturdays between 9am and 5pm the service may include repeats of its features. Religious groups will be featured regularly across news and entertainment programming.</p> <p>From Year 2: The broadcast hours of the service will be extended and the number of new local features will be doubled. The service will also include a daily 30 minute talk programme Mondays</p>	<p>The service’s programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of “home-produced” general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, local opinion, entertainment and news 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what’s on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what’s on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

<p>to Thursdays. At a variety of time slots cross the week, the service will additionally feature performances by local bands. By Year 3: The broadcast hours of local programming will be extended further.</p>	<p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

	Hours of local programming per week: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 17 hours per week	Year 2: 23 hours per week	Year 3: 35 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 17 hours per week	Year 2: 33 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
	Hours of local programming per week: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 33 hours per week	Year 2: 48 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 33 hours per week	Year 2: 48 hours per week	Year 3: 5 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		
	Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 3 hours per week	Year 2: 3 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 3 hours per week	Year 2: 3 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		

	Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 0 hours per week	Year 2: 0 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 0 hours per week	Year 2: 0 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 9 hours per week	Year 2: 11.5 hours per week	Year 3: 10 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 9 hours per week	Year 2: 11.5 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences.		

	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 7 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 1 hours per week	Year 2: 1 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hour per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its current format of rolling local news, sports and entertainment. The purpose of Local TV's request is to standardise requirements across licences it holds, as well as bringing Local TV's commitments in line with other LTVN providers. Reducing the repeat requirement allows Local TV to prioritise original local content, rather than opting against more local content because of the limitations set by the existing requirements.		

Variation Request – Teesside TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The service will broadcast a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of general interest programming and acquired content that is in keeping with the lifestyle and information style of the channel. At a local level, news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily, supplemented by content shared with other L-DTPS channels and acquired programming.</p> <p>The service will cater for the local audience by including regular local news bulletins, with an average of 25 x 90 second local news and what's on bulletins per day and a regular feed of local fillers including event guides and vox-pops.</p> <p>Local businesses will be afforded the chance to advertise on a medium previously out of their reach, consistently reminding the viewer that this is a channel produced locally, by a local production team for a local audience that supports local business.</p> <p>The content mix will contain local programming, shared content with other local</p>	<p>The service's programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of "home-produced" general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, local opinion, entertainment and news 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what's on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what's on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

<p>licensees, acquired lifestyle and factual entertainment and commercial content that includes a small amount of teleshopping. First-run programming will make up at least 2 hours of the daily prime-time schedule</p> <p>The morning breakfast show will run each morning providing up to the minute local news, traffic and weather content. This is further complemented with an average of 25 x 90 second local news and what's on bulletins per day.</p> <p>Local event guides and on-the-street vox-pops will be filmed throughout the week and broadcast across the day.</p>	<p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

	Hours of local programming per week: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 37 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
	Hours of local programming per week: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 34 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 5 hours per week

Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats			
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 9 hours per week	Year 2: 10 hours per week	Year 3: 12 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 9 hours per week	Year 2: 10 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 2 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 5 hours per week	Year 2: 4 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hour per week
Reason for proposed change:	<p>Local TV has no intention of changing its current format of rolling local news, sports and entertainment. The purpose of Local TV's request is to standardise requirements across licences it holds, as well as bringing Local TV's commitments in line with other LTVN providers. Reducing the repeat requirement allows Local TV to prioritise original local content, rather than opting against more local content because of the limitations set by the existing requirements.</p>		

Variation Request – Tyne and Wear TV

Proposed Changes to Programming Output

Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new key commitment	Reason for proposed change
<p>The service's programming schedule will be locally focused.</p> <p>The service will include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of "home-produced" general interest programming and acquired content that is in keeping with the lifestyle and information style of the service.</p> <p>At a local level news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p> <p>The service will cater for the local audience by including regular local news bulletins, with an average of 25 x 90 second local news and what's on bulletins per day and a regular feed of local fillers including event guides and vox-pops.</p> <p>Local event guides and vox-pops will be filmed periodically and broadcast during the day.</p> <p>The service's output will support local business by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p>	<p>The service's programming schedule will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be locally focused ● Include a blend of exclusively local content with a mix of "home-produced" general interest programming ● Include regular news bulletins throughout the day ● Give local people a voice through regular vox pops ● Reflect life in and around the licensed area and the diversity of the community ● Provide a mix of content covering topics such as weather, local sport, history, health, cinema, council, current affairs, events, traffic, crime, local opinion, entertainment and news 	<p>Local TV is looking to bring consistency across its licences.</p> <p>This request is to update the wording within the licence to ensure Local TV has flexibility within its schedule while continuing its focus on local news, sport and what's on.</p> <p>Local TV will continue to give communities a voice, it will continue to produce regular news bulletins throughout the day and will continue supporting local businesses by providing an affordable platform for advertising.</p> <p>Local news, sport and what's on remains at the heart of the service.</p> <p>The character of the service will not change.</p>

<p>Exclusively local content will make up approximately 40% of the schedule, with programming shared with other L-DTPS licensees contributing approximately 15% and the remaining airtime being a blend of acquisitions and commercial content. First-run programming will make up 2 hours of the evening schedule with a further 7hrs (repeats) of local content throughout the day.</p> <p>The programme output will feature the following topics: celebrity, motoring, health, home improvement, history, crime, cinema, food, recruitment, tourism, council, nightlife, local opinion, property, entertainment, local personalities, sport, current affairs, traffic, weather, events and news.</p>	<p>Local news, current affairs, local entertainment and sports will feature heavily in the service.</p>	
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Proposed Changes to Specified Hours

	Hours of local programming per week: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 37 hours per week	Year 2: 37 hours per week	Year 3: 37 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 21 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. This also allows for flexibility within the schedule, meaning Local TV can make decisions to better serve local audiences.		
	Hours of local programming per week: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 21 hours per week	Year 2: 21 hours per week	Year 3: 21 hours per week

Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 2 hours per week	Year 2: 2 hours per week	Year 3: 2 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	Local TV has no intention of changing its daily schedule. This change request brings Local TV in line with other LTVN broadcasters and standardises commitments across its own licences. By reducing the repeat requirement, this also gives Local TV the opportunity to air more original local content on occasion.		
	Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 14 hours per week	Year 2: 14 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 7 hours per week	Year 2: 7 hours per week	Year 3: 14 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		

	Hours of local programming per week in peak-time (18.00-22.30): Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 0 hours per week	Year 2: 0 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 0 hours per week	Year 2: 0 hours per week	Year 3: 0 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		
	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: First run		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 8 hours per week	Year 2: 8 hours per week	Year 3: 8 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		

	Hours and scheduling of local news and current affairs programming: Repeats		
Existing commitment (as in your published programming commitments):	Year 1: 1 hours per week	Year 2: 1 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week
Proposed commitment:	Year 1: 1 hours per week	Year 2: 1 hours per week	Year 3: 1 hours per week
Reason for proposed change:	No proposed change.		