

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Peter

Surname:

Arrowsmith

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep part of the response confidential

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

email address

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

Yes

Additional comments:

I've only 2 general observations to make and no replies to the specific questions.

First, it does not seem to be generally recognised (and if it is, this document does not seem to acknowledge it) that DAB take-up is hampered in areas where the local BBC service and local commercial services are not yet digital. I know a few people who

bought a DAB (only, ie no VHF) set or were given one as a present only to find it doesn't meet their needs.

Secondly, i deplore the prospect of the Beds Herts and Bucks "local" area, which is already big, being merged with Northants. The fact that a commercial provider has done so does not mean that they are providing an adequate local service (what commercial service does these days?) or that it would be acceptable on BBC services.

Question 1: Do you agree with our approach of matching DAB to FM within defined editorial areas? We will seek comments on specific editorial boundaries via separate consultations if and when specific changes are proposed.:

Question 2: Do you agree with our approach to determining the extent of existing FM coverage, and which of the three field strength levels should be used to define the FM coverage that DAB should match?:

Question 3: Do you agree with our approach to determining the extent of existing DAB coverage, and its relation to the approach we take for FM?:

Question 4: Are the assumptions we make about needing to predict DAB in-vehicle coverage for 99% of the time and for 99% of locations the right ones?:

Question 5: Should the principle of merging editorial areas be explored, as a way of improving coverage?:

Question 6: Above and beyond the frequency changes proposed in this document, should further changes to frequency allocations be explored, as a way of improving coverage?: