

Question	Your response
<p>Question 1: Should Ofcom exercise its discretion to consent to the application to vary the Bradford small-scale multiplex licensed area, with regard to the statutory and policy considerations set out in this document?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>We are participating in this consultation on behalf of all our entities which were the part of our application for this Small Scale Multiplex for Bradford. We are writing to express our serious concerns regarding the recent Coverage reduction request from Bradford Dab. Our organization, representing several local radio entities, participated in the application process with the understanding that the key requirements for the license, particularly local support and technical plans, would be diligently assessed and upheld by Ofcom.</p> <p>It has come to our attention that despite our strong local support, which included numerous operational radio stations based in Bradford and its catchment areas, our application was overlooked in favor of another applicant, Bradford DAB. Upon further investigation, it has become clear that the awarded licensee has failed to uphold the commitments made during the application process.</p> <p>Firstly, despite claiming significant local support, the Bradford DAB platform does not include any of the main local community radio stations on its carriage platform. This raises serious concerns about the accuracy of the support figures provided to Ofcom and highlights the potential for misleading information to influence the decision-making process.</p> <p>Secondly, there are alarming indications that the licensee intends to backtrack on its technical plans by reducing coverage area by almost 35%, contrary to the initial promises made to Ofcom. This reduction directly contradicts the preference point awarded based on coverage area, with our group proposing coverage slightly below 80% compared to the other group's plan exceeding 80%.</p>
<p>Question 2: With reference to our impact assessment, do you agree with our assessment of the potential impacts of approving this application?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>We firmly believe that such breaches of key commitments warrant a review of the license conditions by Ofcom to ensure fairness and transparency in the licensing process. It is imperative that the interests of all com-</p>

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	<p>community members, including local radio operators and listeners, are safeguarded against tactics aimed at circumventing regulatory requirements for personal gain.</p> <p>We respectfully request that Ofcom thoroughly investigate the concerns raised and take appropriate action to uphold the integrity of the licensing process. Rejecting the coverage reduction request based on the evidence provided would serve to protect the future of DAB and local community radio stations, preventing undue advantage to a single commercial radio station at the expense of others.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to a prompt and fair resolution that prioritizes the interests of all stakeholders involved.</p>