
Small-scale radio multiplex licence

Application form – Part A (public)

Name of applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

BOLTON BURY DAB RADIO LIMITED

Multiplex licence area being applied for (note this must be a small-scale multiplex area currently being advertised by Ofcom):

Bolton and Bury

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1. Overview

The purpose of this form

- 1.1 You should complete this form if you are applying for a licence to provide a small-scale radio multiplex service (a 'small-scale radio multiplex licence'). A small-scale radio multiplex service is the means by which DAB digital radio stations ('digital sound programme services') are broadcast, and can transmit around ten stereo digital sound programme services (or a significantly higher number if the DAB+ standard is utilised). The application form is divided into two parts – **Part A** (which we will publish on our website) and **Part B** (which will be kept confidential). This document constitutes Part A; Part B of the application form is available [here](#).
- 1.2 Small-scale radio multiplex licences are awarded by Ofcom in a competitive process. Applications are judged against specified criteria, and Ofcom awards the licence to the applicant which it considers best meets the criteria.

How to complete the form

- 1.3 There are detailed instructions on how to complete this form, and information on the next steps in the application process, in our [guidance notes](#) for licence applicants and licensees. Please read this guidance and the frequently asked questions carefully before completing this form.
- 1.4 If you still have a query having read the guidance and FAQ, you can contact Ofcom's Broadcast Licensing team by email (broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk). The team cannot provide advice or pre-approve applications, but can answer general questions.
- 1.5 Please download this form and fill it in on a computer. If completing by hand, please use block capitals and black ink.
- 1.6 Please answer all the questions as fully as possible, use extra sheets if required and provide the supporting documentation listed at Section 7 of Part B of the application form. Sufficient information must be supplied about the applicant and the proposed service to enable Ofcom to consider the application in accordance with the statutory criteria for the granting of small-scale radio multiplex licences. Ofcom may need to request further details from you before a licence can be granted.
- 1.7 Ofcom reserves the right to reject applications made using an old version of the form.**
- 1.8 Ofcom will accept handwritten application forms but they must be filled in using block capitals and black ink.
- 1.9 Ofcom reserves the right to reject application forms that are illegible.**
- 1.10 You must answer all questions in the application form and respond "N/A" to any questions that do not apply to the applicant.
- 1.11 Ofcom reserves the right to reject applications which do not meet the following criteria:**
- a) The declarations in Section 6 of this form and in Section 8 of Part B of the application form must both be signed and dated.
 - b) The person who signs and makes the declaration on behalf of the applicant must be:
 - i) A director of the company or the company secretary where the applicant is a company.
 - ii) A designated member where the applicant is a Limited Liability Partnership.
 - c) All supporting documents as requested in the checklist at Section 7 of Part B of the application form must be supplied in legible form and translated into English where applicable.
- 1.12 If you are completing the form as an agent, i.e. you are acting on the applicant's behalf, please note that you cannot sign it on your client's behalf, and that the person signing the form needs to have personally checked the truth and completeness of the responses given. If your client wishes you to be Ofcom's main contact in relation to the application, please make this clear in an accompanying letter, and provide evidence of your authority to act on behalf of the applicant. The form should be filled in so as to include information about the applicant, not the agent. If Ofcom has further questions once the application has been submitted, we will direct these to the applicant, not to the agent, but we will accept responses from the agent.

How to submit the form

- 1.13 We prefer application forms and required supporting documents to be submitted by email to broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk. Handwritten applications and required supporting documents should be scanned and attached to the email.
- 1.14 You should receive an auto-response from broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk confirming that your application has been received by Ofcom. If you do not receive a response, it is likely your application has not been received and you should contact Ofcom's Contact Centre on 0300 123 3333 and ask for the Broadcast Licensing team who will be able to confirm if your application was received.
- 1.15 If the applicant cannot submit the application form and/or the supporting documentation by email, the applicant may submit the application and/or the supporting documentation by post to:
- Ofcom
Broadcast Licensing, Riverside House, 2a Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA
- 1.16 Those applicants who submit their application by post will be sent an acknowledgement.

Application fee

- 1.17 A non-refundable application fee of £500 is payable either by cheque made out to 'Ofcom' or by bank transfer.
- 1.18 Applications will not be assessed until the application fee has been received in Ofcom's bank account.
- 1.19 Ofcom requests that applicants pay the application fee by bank transfer and that immediately after the applicant has instructed their bank to make the payment, confirmation of payment is emailed to ofcom.remittances@ofcom.org.uk.
- 1.20 To ensure that Ofcom can identify the payment, it must include a payment reference which is the applicant's postcode followed by the applicant's name (or as much of the name as is possible to provide within the character limit set by the bank) as provided in response to question 3.1 of this application.
- 1.21 The bank details to be used to pay the application fee are:
- Account Name: Office of Communications
Bank details: Lloyds Bank, 69-73 Borough High Street, London SE1 1NQ
Account number: 00782415
Sort code: 30-97-90
- 1.22 If the applicant is unable to make the payment by bank transfer, a cheque should be made out to 'Ofcom' and sent in the post to Ofcom Broadcast Licensing team, Riverside House, 2a Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA. You must state the name of the applicant as provided in response to question 3.2 and proposed service name on the back of the cheque.
- 1.23 If an applicant is paying the application fee by cheque, the cheque must be received within five days of the application being received by Ofcom or the application may be rejected. If an applicant's cheque bounces, the application may be rejected.

Supporting documentation

- 1.24 You must provide a range of supporting documentation when submitting this application form. Please refer to the checklist at Section 7 of Part B of the application form for full details. Please note that failure to supply the necessary documents will delay your application.
- 1.25 **Ofcom reserves the right to reject applications with which the necessary documents are not supplied in legible form.**
- 1.26 Please note that Ofcom cannot receive emails larger than 35MB. If your application email exceeds this limit, please send your supporting documents in a separate email(s), clearly indicating the applicant's name in the subject line of the email.

Provision of information

- 1.27 Ofcom requires complete and accurate information to assess applications. In particular, we must be satisfied that those applying for a licence are ‘fit and proper’ to hold a licence and are not disqualified from participation in a licence.
- 1.28 It is an offence under the Broadcasting Act 1996 (as amended) to provide false information or withhold relevant information during the application process, and may be grounds for revocation of a licence subsequently granted.

Publication of applications

- 1.29 Part A of the application form (i.e. this document) will be published by Ofcom on our website as soon as practicable following the closing-date for applications. Because this is the ‘public’ part of the application form, and Ofcom is legally required to publish applications for public comments, **no questions should be answered by means of the submission of a confidential annex**. If, for logistical reasons, an annex is required to answer a question in Part A of the form, this will be published on our website alongside Part A of the application form. Part B of the application form will remain confidential.
- 1.30 Ofcom may take into account any comments received from the public, which can be made to it with respect to Part A of the application submitted.
- 1.31 In submitting Part A of the application, you agree that Ofcom may publish contact details for the licensee, which may include personal data, on the Ofcom website and/or in other relevant publications.
- 1.32 When a licence is granted, the name of the service and public contact details for the licensee will be published on the Ofcom website. These are the details supplied by the applicant in the application form. If you have any questions about the information that we publish, or there are any changes to this information, you should contact the Broadcast Licensing team by email (broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk).
- 1.33 Ofcom considers issued small-scale radio multiplex licences to be public documents and copies of licences will be made available to third parties on request, noting that personal data apart from the name of the licensee may be redacted.

Data protection

- 1.34 We require the information requested in this form in order to carry out our licensing duties under the Broadcasting Act 1990, Broadcasting Act 1996 and Communications Act 2003. Please see Ofcom’s General Privacy Statement www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/foi-dp/general-privacy-statement for further information about how Ofcom handles your personal information and your corresponding rights.

Keeping up to date with broadcasting matters

- 1.35 We strongly recommend that you sign up to receive Ofcom’s regular email updates on broadcasting matters including notification when the Broadcast Bulletin is published.
- 1.36 Ofcom publishes a [monthly radio licensing update](#) which lists new services licensed, licences revoked, licence transfers, and changes to licensed services during the past month.
- 1.37 To sign up to receive these communications, please visit <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/latest/email-updates> and select ‘Broadcasting’.

2. Extent of proposed coverage area

About this section

Under section 51(2)(a) of the 1996 Act, we are required to consider the extent of the coverage area an applicant proposes to achieve within the area which has been advertised. This section therefore asks you to describe the coverage you are proposing to achieve. Further questions on the detailed technical arrangements for the proposed service, including questions on the transmission site(s) that you intend to use and your plans for how the multiplexing and distribution of your service will be arranged are contained in Part B of the application form.

Before completing this section of the form, you should read carefully the notes on 'Extent of proposed coverage area' in Section 4 of Ofcom's [Guidance notes for licence applicants and licensees](#).

Applicants should note there are confidential questions relating to extent of coverage area in Part B of the application form.

- 2.1 Provide a summary, fully consistent with the more detailed information about transmission sites supplied separately in Part B, of the coverage area proposed to be achieved by your technical plan. This should include a description of the target area you are seeking to serve within the advertised licence area, and also any areas you are aiming to serve outside the advertised licence area for this small-scale radio multiplex service. (You may refer to your coverage prediction in the response you provide):

Bolton Bury DAB Radio Ltd brings together nearly all of the community broadcasters in our area, both those currently licenced to broadcast, and those looking to grow their existing online audiences by broadcasting on Small Scale DAB.

Our objectives with the technical plan are:

- To create coverage that is sustainable and affordable to our community radio broadcasters
- To create good quality coverage in Bolton and Bury
- To replicate the existing analogue (FM and AM) community radio coverage so that as many of our current listeners as possible can find us on digital radio.

This has meant making the towns of Bolton and Bury our primary coverage focus, representing the core of our area and our communities. We are proposing a two site SFN, with sites at Tottington and on the existing Bolton FM site at Dove Mill in the town.

In this initial build, we haven't been able to provide complete coverage to Ramsbottom or Horwich. We also have not tried to cover Atherton or Leigh, as they don't normally form part of our area, and Leigh is also (and more naturally) part of the Wigan SSDAB area. We have sufficient headroom in our population to consider adding additional sites to better cover Horwich and south of the M61 at a later stage.

We have a very good and established relationship with many local organisations, including Bolton Wanderers Football Club, who have made an offer to consider using their University of Bolton Stadium as a potential transmission site in the future. This would improve coverage in Horwich.

The planned coverage represents 70% of the advertised area, but over 98% of the population in the core Bolton and Bury area bounded by the M61 and M62.

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2.2 Provide summary details of the sites required to achieve this coverage by completing the table below (add additional rows as required):

Site Name	NGR	Antenna height (m agl)	Antenna type proposed with bearing	New or existing antenna	ERP (W)
Height Barn Farm	SD76361213	25m	Dipole @ 140°	New	80W
Dove Mill	SD69540775	30m	Coaxial Dipole	New	100W

2.3 Please provide a coverage prediction map for the whole transmitter network you are proposing to build within 18 months if you are awarded a licence. The map should show the 63 dBµV/m field strength and the advertised small-scale DAB licence area contour. [Small-scale DAB licence areas in GIS format](#) are available on the [Ofcom website](#).

Attached as an Appendix.

2.4 Please provide the following details of the prediction software used for your coverage assessments:

Provide the name and version of the prediction tool used.	HTZ Communications
Detail the terrain model used by the software and its resolution.	Ordnance Survey Terrain 50m
Detail the ground cover (clutter) data used by the software and its resolution.	DEFRA and OSM at 50m
What propagation algorithm has been used?	Deygout 94 v2
Where multiple sites are proposed, describe what methodology has been used to assess the network (SFN) gain	Power Sum Method
If these predictions have not used Ofcom-provided population data, state what population data has been used and its source.	Ofcom-provided population data
Have your predictions been generated by a commercial organisation? If so, by whom?	Muxnet UK

3. Ability to establish the proposed service

About this section

In Section 3, we are asking questions about the applicant company, its financial and business plan, the relevant expertise and experience of those who will be involved in providing the small-scale radio multiplex service, and the timetable for coverage roll-out. The answers to these questions will enable Ofcom to assess the application under section 51(2)(c) of the 1996 Act. Additional information is requested in Part B of the application form.

In the first part of this section we are asking for details of the applicant's officers (directors or, in the case of LLPs, designated members), its shareholders and participants. Where applicable, we are also asking for details of the officers of the applicant's parent and associated companies or LLPs etc.

If any of the individuals named in your responses are known by more than one name/version of their name, all names must be provided.

Certain persons are disqualified from holding a small-scale radio multiplex licence. This section asks the questions which enable us to consider this for those types of disqualification which apply specifically to bodies corporate. It also asks questions which are relevant to our assessment of the applicant's fitness and propriety to hold a small-scale radio multiplex licence.

The response boxes and tables should be expanded or repeated where necessary, or provided in a separate annex.

'Officerships' in this section refers to: directorships of bodies corporate, designated memberships of LLPs, or membership of a governing body of an unincorporated association (including partnerships).

The remaining questions in Section 3 relate to the applicant's financial and business plan, the expertise and experience of those involved, and the planned timetable for launching the proposed multiplex service.

Applicants should note there are confidential questions relating to extent of coverage area in Part B of the application form.

Applicant's details

3.1 Name of applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

BOLTON BURY DAB LIMITED

3.2 Company registration number stated on Companies House (if applicable):

13520918

3.3 For UK registered companies, the address of the applicant's registered office stated on Companies House. For non-UK registered companies, the principal office address:

Hazlemere, 70 Chorley New Road, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 4BY

3.4 If a UK registered company, is the **current** Memorandum and Articles of Association document available on the Companies House website?

Yes

Ownership and control of company which will hold the licence

Details of officers

3.5 Please complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to provide the following details for each director or designated member of the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

Full name of individual	Correspondence address ¹	Country of residence	Other officerships held (and nature of the business concerned)	Other employment
Andrew Michael DICKSON	The Studio, Office 6 Ashburner Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 1TQ	UK	Director, St Andrews Travel Limited Director, Bolton Golf Club Ltd Director, Wow Factor Consultancy Ltd Director, Bolton FM CIC	
David Keith HARRIS	The Studio, Office 6 Ashburner Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 1TQ	UK	Director, Bolton FM CIC	General Manager, Bolton FM
David MURPHY	Blue Pit Mill 2nd Floor, Suite 3, Queensway, Rochdale OL11 2YW	UK	Director, Roch Valley Radio Limited Director, No Fuss IT Limited Director, DDR Management Limited Director, Datarift Limited Director, Pat My Tech Limited	Managing Director, No Fuss IT

¹ This should be the same address as is held and published by Companies House.

Details of participants

- 3.6 Complete the table overleaf, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies or individuals which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, in the applicant (i.e. the “participants”). If you are unable to provide a complete answer to this question in relation to beneficial owners, please state whether you have any reason to suspect the existence of any beneficial owners.

Full name of participant (existing and proposed)	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
Bolton F.M. Community Interest Company	100	£100	100%	100%
Comments				
Salaam BCR have been offered a 10% shareholding in Bolton Bury DAB Limited, and a director's position, should our application be successful. In this event, Bolton FM CIC would reduce its shareholding to 90 shares / 90% of the voting rights.				

Details of relationships of control

- 3.7 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list any bodies corporate which are controlled by the applicant, any director of the applicant, any person/body corporate with control over the applicant, or any body corporate controlled by a person/body corporate controlling the applicant. Please include bodies corporate under joint control – i.e. which are controlled acting together in concert with third parties (e.g. because of a shareholder's agreement):

Full name of body corporate	Address	Person/body controlling the entity (i.e. the applicant itself or its associate)
N/A		

Details of persons who control the applicant

- 3.8 Complete the table overleaf, expanding it if necessary, to list all persons/bodies corporate who control the applicant, or control any person/body corporate with control over the applicant. Please include persons or bodies that control the applicant (or body corporate with control over the applicant) jointly i.e. acting together in concert with third parties (e.g. because of a shareholder's agreement). Please note that some of this information may repeat information provided above on shareholders and other participants in the applicant:

Full name of person/body corporate	Address	Person/body controlled by the entity (i.e. the applicant itself or its associate)
Bolton F.M. Community Interest Company	The Studio Office 6, Ashburner Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 1TQ	Applicant

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3.9 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list other bodies in which any individual listed in response to question 3.8 is a director or designated member:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of individual	Name of body in which individual is a director or designated member
N/A	

3.10 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies corporate which are controlled (including jointly controlled) by any body corporate listed in response to question 3.8:

Full name of body corporate listed in 3.8	Body corporate controlled
N/A	

3.11 In relation to each body corporate identified in response to question 3.8, complete the table overleaf, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, in the body corporate concerned (i.e. “participants”). You may, but are not required to, exclude from this table any bodies listed in response to question 3.8. If you are unable to provide a complete answer to this question in relation to beneficial owners, please state whether you have any reason to suspect the existence of any beneficial owners.

Name of body corporate identified in response to question 3.8				
Full name of participant	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
N/A				
Comments				

Involvement of the applicant in specified activities

3.12 Please state below whether the applicant, or any individual or body corporate identified in questions 3.5 to 3.11 is, or is involved in, any of the below, and the extent of that interest.

Activity/involvement	Yes or No	Please state who is involved; the name of the body/individual/agency they are involved with; and the extent of their involvement
A local authority	No	
A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a political nature, or which is affiliated to such a body	No	
A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a religious nature; ²	No	
An individual who is an officer of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	
A body corporate which is an associate (as defined in paragraphs 1(1) and 1(1A) of Part I of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990) of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	
An advertising agency or an associate of an advertising agency	No	

Details of applications, licences and sanctions

3.13 Please answer 'yes' or 'no' to the following questions about the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

(a) Is the applicant a current licensee of Ofcom?

No

(b) Has the applicant ever held an Ofcom broadcasting licence before?

No

(c) Has anyone involved in the proposed service held an Ofcom broadcasting licence or been involved in an Ofcom-licensed broadcast service before?

Yes

(d) Does the applicant control an existing Ofcom licensee?

No

² Please refer to Sections 3 to 5 of Ofcom's religious guidance note at: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0028/88219/Guidance-for-religious-bodies.pdf for details on how we determine the eligibility of religious bodies to hold certain broadcasting licences.

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(e) Is the applicant controlled by an existing licensee or by any person who is connected (within the meaning of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990) with an existing licensee (i.e. as a “participant”)?

Yes

(f) Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant - made any other application to Ofcom (or its predecessor broadcast regulators – the Independent Television Commission and the Radio Authority) for any licence which has since been surrendered by the licensee or revoked by Ofcom (or one of its predecessor regulators)?

No

(g) Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant - made any other application to Ofcom (or its predecessor broadcast regulators – the Independent Television Commission and the Radio Authority) for any licence which has since been surrendered by the licensee or revoked by Ofcom (or one of its predecessor regulators)?

No

(h) Is the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – subject to any current or pending investigation by any statutory regulatory or government body in the United Kingdom or abroad in respect of any broadcast-related matter?

No

(i) Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – ever been subject to a statutory sanction for contravening a condition of a broadcasting licence in the UK or any other jurisdiction?

No

3.14 If the response to any of the questions (a) to (i) in 3.14 above is ‘yes’, please provide the details, expanding the table where necessary:

	Licence number(s) (if known)	Details
(a)		
(b)		
(c)	CR000163BA/3	Bolton FM
(d)		
(e)	CR000163BA/3	Bolton FM
(f)		
(g)		
(h)		
(i)		

Small-scale radio multiplex licence: Application form (Part A)

- 3.15 Please provide any further information you hold, relating to the past conduct of the applicant or those individuals listed, in regulatory matters or in matters going to honesty and/or compliance, which may be relevant to Ofcom's consideration of whether or not the applicant is fit and proper to hold a broadcast licence. If the applicant or the form signatory fails without reasonable excuse at this point to declare any matter of which Ofcom subsequently becomes aware, and which we consider to be relevant to the applicant's eligibility to hold a licence, we will take it into account in determining the question of whether the applicant/licensee remains fit and proper to hold a licence.

N/A

- 3.16 Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – ever been convicted of an unlicensed broadcasting offence?

No

Financial and business plan

- 3.17 Please provide a high-level estimate of the costs you believe will be required to establish the multiplex service.

Bolton Bury DAB Radio Ltd is an initiative led by and for the community broadcasters of Bolton, Bury and the surrounding areas.

Our ownership structure means that all the benefits of running a small scale DAB multiplex will flow back to the community radio sector in the area. Our partners are experienced in running community based and funded radio, and will bring that experience to make Bolton Bury DAB Radio successful.

Whilst Bolton FM has been instrumental in catalysing this community-led application, we intend that Bolton Bury DAB Radio Limited should have representation from, and benefit to, all our stakeholders. We approached Salaam BCR to become a shareholder, and take up a director's position, as well as bringing Salaam BCR to the multiplex. Unfortunately, a pre-existing commitment became apparent to them during our discussions, and they felt they couldn't take up the offer at this stage. The offer remains open should we be successful, and Salaam BCR have said they will be happy to join us and work with us.

We have also appointed a director to represent the community broadcasters who are currently only available on-line, and will become the area's first C-DSP services.

Our business plan has been designed to be realistic, achievable and sustainable. The initial coverage commitment reaches our goals, but minimises costs by leveraging our existing local relationships.

We have appointed Muxnet UK to manage the multiplex and represent our commercial capacity in the market for services who would like to cover not just our area, but our contribution to a wider and cost-effective Greater Manchester coverage. Muxnet has significant digital radio and small-scale multiplex experience.

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Our approach means our multiplex is affordable - affordable for the existing community stations, affordable for the three streaming community radio stations in our application to become C-DSP licence holders, and cost-effective for commercial providers.

In order to maximise the returns back to the community, we'll be seeking to optimise our mix of funding. That mix will include funding assistance through organisations like Bolton VCS and Bury VCFA, and we have already identified grants and social lending programmes which we will apply for. Bolton FM and the University of Bolton have also confirmed that they are prepared to either invest or lend to Bolton Bury FM Radio Limited sufficient to meet any initial funding requirements.

We have budgeted £30k for capital expenditure to establish the two sites and initial operating costs. The annual operating costs (excluding depreciation) will be approximately £10k.

Our projections show that the business is sustainable with 5 commercial service providers, creating a revenue of £18k. We are confident that this demand exists.

3.18 Please indicate how the costs outlined in 3.17 (above) will be met, under the following headings:

a) Share capital	£100
b) Loan stock	Up to £30,000
c) Leasing/HP facilities (capital value)	£0
d) Bank overdraft	£0
e) Grants and donations	Up to £30,000
f) Other (please specify)	£0
Total	£30,100

3.19 Expanding the table if necessary, please list the providers of the funding which will be used to establish the service, and the amount of funding that each will provide. For incorporated investing shareholders, please provide a copy of the most recent statutory accounts if they are not currently available on Companies House.

Name of shareholder or investor	Percentage of shares held (if applicable)	Amount of funding provided (£)
BOLTON F.M. CIC	100%	£30,000 as required

- 3.20 All of the funding identified above should be confirmed. If any funding has not been confirmed, or if there are any pre-conditions before the funding is released which have not yet been met, provide an explanation of what needs to be done, the dates by which it needs to be carried out, and any steps the applicant needs to take to ensure the funding is confirmed and/or released.

We propose to fund our £30,000 through a mix of loans and / or grants and donations.

Funding from Bolton FM is confirmed to the full amount required, if necessary.

Funding has been offered from the University of Bolton, amount to be negotiated.

Funding from other sources is by negotiation and application, depending on grant application windows. Bolton Bury DAB Radio Limited and Muxnet will jointly seek out and write applications for grant funding.

Relevant expertise and experience

- 3.21 Please provide details of who will be responsible for the day-to-day general management of the multiplex service (for example, dealing with programme service providers and contractual matters). Please also briefly state their previous relevant experience. (Note that any individuals or contractors who cannot be identified at this stage can instead be included in the confidential section (Part B) of the application form.)

The board has substantial local and community radio experience.

Dr. Andrew Dickson MBE is the founder and chair of Bolton FM, and a winner of the Bolton & Bury Business Awards 'Lifetime Achievement Award'. He established St Andrews Travel in Bolton in 1983, quickly growing the business into ten branches, 75 staff and a £25m annual turnover. In 2006, he formed the Wow Consultancy, helping transform other businesses. Andrew has led Bolton FM since it launched. The station won the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2018.

Keith Harris has been the General Manager of Bolton FM for the last six years. He is a semi-retired company director from the electronic distribution industry and a business development consultant. Keith is a qualified accountant.

David Murphy chairs Roch Valley Radio which supplies a hospital radio and online service from Bury. He is also Managing Director of No Fuss IT, which offers fully managed tech and telecom services to SMEs. David is on the board to give a voice to our non-Ofcom licensed local service providers (Hindu Forum Radio, Roch Valley, Howfen) who are an important part of our programme service offer.

The Programme Manager of Bolton FM is John Ryan, who will coordinate other local/community station partners in the multiplex. John has 35 years experience in commercial, community and BBC radio, notably as chair of Gaydio and formerly the Managing Editor of BBC Radio Manchester.

We have worked with Muxnet UK to create this application, and they will oversee the build and operation of the transmission network on our behalf. They will also handle day-to-day

liaison with Ofcom on policy and technical matters and the management service providers (including contractual agreements and finance).

Muxnet has extensive experience of all aspects of DAB Digital Radio. Nick Piggott has been actively involved with the Small Scale DAB trials in several locations, as well as many years of contributing to the Open Digital Radio project, and has decades of technical experience of DAB Digital Radio, sitting on the Technical Committee of WorldDAB and contributing to the creation of technical standards and guidance papers. Gregory Watson has a deep experience of regulatory and business affairs, whilst Matt Deegan has been involved with strategic and commercial development of digital radio for many years.

Muxnet UK will provide continuous technical support, support for service providers, manage legal and contractual compliance, and will sell spare capacity on the multiplex on our behalf. Muxnet UK will contract any required specialist skills or resources to build, install and maintain the transmission equipment, and will take on responsibility for technical compliance.

3.22 Please provide details of who will be carrying out the installation and on-going maintenance of your multiplexing / transmitter equipment (or the name of your proposed transmission and multiplex provider if you intend to use a third-party organisation for these services). Please also briefly state their previous relevant experience. (Note that any individuals or contractors who cannot be identified at this stage can instead be included in the confidential section (Part B) of the application form.)

Function	Responsible party	Previous experience
Installation of transmission equipment	Muxnet UK	Small Scale DAB Trials, Local DAB multiplexes
Ongoing maintenance of the transmission equipment	Muxnet UK	Small Scale DAB Trials, Local DAB multiplexes
Installation of the Multiplexing equipment	Muxnet UK	Small Scale DAB Trials, Local DAB multiplexes
Day-to-day technical management and maintenance of the multiplexing equipment (if different from response to question 3.28 above)	Muxnet UK	Small Scale DAB Trials, Local DAB multiplexes

Timetable for coverage roll-out

3.23 Please tell us how soon after licence award you expect your multiplex service to become operational and achieve the coverage you are proposing:

We expect to be able to commission all three sites, representing all the planned coverage, 6 months after agreement of the technical plan.

We have allowed a large proportion of this time for technical liaison and clearance processes.

In parallel to the technical track, we will be securing grant funding for capital equipment, and getting committed contracts from service providers.

We do not expect the legal process involved with securing site access to be significant in comparison to these other activities. We also expect suppliers to be able to supply stock items relatively quickly after purchase orders are submitted.

3.24 In addition, please provide, as an annex to be submitted with this application, an outline project plan with timeline (e.g. a Gantt chart or similar) showing the high level activities and tasks leading up to the launch of your multiplex service.

A Gantt chart of key project tasks is attached.

4. Involvement of C-DSP providers; demand or support from programme providers

About this section

Section 51(2)(ca) of the 1996 Act requires Ofcom to take into account the desirability of awarding a small-scale radio multiplex licence to a body corporate that is providing – or proposing to provide – a C-DSP service in the locality being advertised (or involving such a person as a participant in the licence-holding company).

Section 51(2)(f) of the 1996 Act requires Ofcom to take into account evidence that the applicant has support from providers interested in having their existing or planned programme services carried on the proposed multiplex.

Note that we do not require applicants to provide us with a full-line up of services they intend to provide, or details about the content of those services.

Involvement of C-DSP providers

4.1 Is the applicant body proposing to provide its own C-DSP service on the multiplex?

NO

4.2 If the answer to the above question is 'no', please provide details of any participant in the applicant body that is proposing to provide a C-DSP service on the multiplex. In this context, a "participant" refers to a person who holds or is beneficially entitled to shares in the applicant or possesses voting power in the applicant. If the service is already licensed by Ofcom, the licence number should be provided. Please refer to the nature of the participation (e.g. shareholding or agreement in relation to voting power):

Bolton F.M. Community Interest Company (shareholder) will provide "Bolton FM" (CR000163BA/3)

Demand or support from programme providers

4.3 Please provide in the table below (expanding the table if necessary) the names of providers (or prospective providers) of community or local digital sound programme services who have expressed their demand or support for the provision of the proposed multiplex service in the area to be served by the multiplex service. For reasons of transparency, the response to this question must be answered below and should not be provided as a separate annex. The evidence of the demand or support, such as signed heads of terms or emails, should be provided as a confidential annex, and relate only to the specific multiplex being applied for.

Name of service provider and station name (if known)	Proposed C-DSP or DSP	Nature of evidence of support provided
Bolton F.M. Community Interest Company - "Bolton FM"	C-DSP	Email confirmation
Markaz-Al-Huda Limited - "Salaam BCR"	C-DSP	Email confirmation
"Howfen Radio"	C-DSP	Email confirmation

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Bolton Hindu Forum - "Bolton Hindu Forum Radio"	C-DSP	Written Confirmation
Roch Valley Radio Ltd - "Roch Valley Radio"	C-DSP	Email confirmation
Chris Country	DSP	Email confirmation
Gaydio	DSP	Email confirmation
Fun Kids Junior	DSP	Written confirmation
Radio Sangam	DSP	Email confirmation
XS Manchester	DSP	Email confirmation
Cosoro Radio	DSP	Email confirmation
Care Radio	DSP	Email confirmation
Timeless Radio	DSP	Email confirmation
Radio Essentials	DSP	Email confirmation
Angel Radio	DSP	Written confirmation
Asian Sound Radio	DSP	Email confirmation
Rise Radio	DSP	Email confirmation
Diamond Life	DSP	Email confirmation
Like One	DSP	Written confirmation
Great British Radio	DSP	Email confirmation
A Confidential Service	DSP	Email confirmation

5. Fair and effective competition

About this section

Section 51(2)(g) of the 1996 Act requires Ofcom to assess whether, in contracting or offering to contract with programme service providers, the applicant has acted in a manner calculated to ensure fair and effective competition in the provision of community and local digital sound programme services.

In assessing applications, we need to have confidence that the prospective small-scale radio multiplex licensee has approached a wide range of potential service providers. Negotiations that have taken place between the applicant and potential service providers need to have been demonstrably fair, and the terms of any contract for service provision must be fair and non-discriminatory.

Applicants should note there is one further question relating to fair and effective competition in Part B of the application form.

- 5.1 Please detail the measures that have already been taken, and will be taken before and during the licence period, to demonstrate that, in contracting or offering to contract with programme services providers, the applicant has acted in a manner calculated to ensure fair and effective competition in the provision of such services:

Our application is made by a consortium who are committed to providing affordable digital radio services to Bolton and Bury.

We have used our local knowledge and contacts to approach all existing community broadcasters in our area, both Ofcom licensees and internet only-stations.

All prospective providers have been provided with the same rate card, and will be offered non-discriminatory terms for carriage.

We maintain a register of requests for capacity for services, and those requests are assessed equally on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. We will ask potential service providers to confirm their request every 6 months to protect their position in the queue.

We have published a tiered rate card and a standard carriage agreement, which will be made available on our website.

6. Declaration

About this section

This form must be submitted by the body corporate which will hold the licence. The declaration must be certified by a company director or the company secretary, and covers all information provided by in the applicant in both Part A and Part B of the application form. The declaration must also be dated.

- a) I hereby apply to Ofcom for the grant of a licence for the small-scale radio multiplex licence described above and declare that the information given in this application form is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.
- b) I further declare and warrant:
 - i) that the applicant is not a disqualified person within the meaning of that expression as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990, as amended, or as a result of a disqualification order under section 145 of the Broadcasting Act 1996;
 - ii) that having made all reasonable enquiries neither the applicant nor any person controlling the applicant, as result of the grant to me of the licence, breach any requirement of Schedule 14 to the Communications Act 2003 with regard to the accumulation of interests in broadcasting services or to the restrictions on cross-media interests;
 - iii) that the applicant is not disqualified by virtue of the provisions of section 143 (5) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 in relation to political objects and the provisions of section 144 (3) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 in relation to the provision of false information or through the withholding of information with the intention of misleading Ofcom; and
 - iv) that no director or person concerned directly or indirectly in the management of the Licensee is the subject to a disqualification order as defined by section 145 (1) of the Broadcasting Act 1996.
- c) I understand that Ofcom reserves the right to revoke the licence (if granted) if at any time any material statement made to Ofcom is found to be false and to have been by the applicant or any member or officer thereof knowing it to be false. I also understand that under sections 144 and 145 of the Broadcasting Act 1996, the provision of false information could incur a criminal conviction and a disqualification from the holding of a Broadcasting Act licence. I further certify that, to the best of my knowledge, any matters which might influence Ofcom's judgement as to whether the directors and substantial shareholders involved in this application are fit and proper persons to participate in a radio licence, have been made known to Ofcom.

Full name (BLOCK CAPITALS) of the person authorised to make the application of behalf of the applicant:

ANDREW DICKSON

Date of application:

1st September 2021

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant in my capacity as (delete as appropriate):

Company director.

You now need to complete the [confidential section \(Part B\)](#) of the application form.