

Misc/WD/CB/VR

10 September 2008

Ed Richards
Chair
Ofcom
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 9HA

Dear Mr. Richards,

Valleys Radio co-location proposals

I am writing in support of the proposals by UTV Radio to co-locate Valleys Radio with Swansea Sound and 96.4FM The Wave to a single South Wales Headquarters, such as the one being proposed at Swansea Gate Business Park.

The proposed move would allow UTV Radio to make the funding available for Valleys Radio to be broadcast on FM. The topography of the Valleys means it is difficult to listen to AM radio in quality. As it is only currently available on AM, unlike its competitors, Valleys Radio has paid the price for this with its audience share declining rapidly in recent years. The move to FM help secure the long term future of the radio station.

Valleys Radio, Swansea Sound and 96.4FM The Wave are all currently based in buildings that are tired and outdated and the proposed co-location would mean the three radio stations moving to state of the art facilities.

I have been reassured by UTV Radio that after the proposed move the current strong local identity that is evident on Valleys Radio would be retained, and I would like to offer my support for the co-location proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Wayne David
MP for Caerphilly