

Your response

Question	Your response
Question 1: Do you agree with the proposed broadcast licensing priorities for the short to medium term? Please give reasons for your answer.	Confidential? – Y/ N Broadly we do not have an issue with these proposals. However, any changes to systems must ensure that physical coverage particularly in rural areas remains at a minimum the same but where possible improved. Additionally, the financial implications to community radio stations (many of which are funded by voluntary donations) of any changes must be considered: can they or will they have the funding available to purchase any additional equipment or services?
Question 2: Do you consider that the proposed broadcast licensing priorities for the short to medium term will provide sufficient provision for audiences? Please give reasons for your answer.	Confidential? – Y/ N Only if the coverage is as good as or better than our existing FM coverage. There is current demand for community radio stations to provide primarily local information to communities to ensure communication, inclusion and assistance to listeners. Any restrictions will negatively impact these and future consumers.
Question 3: For post-launch SSDAB multiplex coverage improvement or extension requests only, do you agree with our proposed change in approach to our application of the rule which restricts overlap with local muxes to 40% of the population already covered by the local mux (the “40% ceiling”)? Please give reasons for your answer.	Confidential? – Y/ N If it is Ofcom’s intention to shut down FM coverage and replace it with DAB then the proposal to restrict duplicated population coverage to 40% is a non-starter. Currently in our area (west Somerset) consumers can access several community stations as well as local radio and national radio, each providing different services to listeners.
Question 4: Do you agree with Ofcom’s analysis in section 3 and at Annex A1 of the existing broadcast licence types? Please give reasons for your answer.	Confidential? – Y/ N Broadly yes we agree with the analysis provided in section 3 and annex 1.
Question 5: Do you agree with our assessment on the impact of our	Confidential? – Y/ N Yes.

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proposed broadcast licensing priorities for the short to medium term at Annex A3? Please give reasons for your answer.	
Question 6: Do you have any other comments to make on the proposals?	Confidential? – Y N Our major concern is what is the financial impacts on a community station if additional or alternative equipment or services are required and how these can be funded at times when general spare cash from communities or funding bodies is in short supply.

Please complete this form in full and return to broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk.