

**Title:**

Mr

**Forename:**

Eric

**Surname:**

Burnill

**Representing:**

Self

**Organisation (if applicable):**

**Email:**

**What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:**

Keep nothing confidential

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

**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:**

You may publish my response on receipt

**Additional comments:**

I am not sure when this consultation period started but in my case whilst I am a member of our local Parish Council the imposed deadline precludes a response from them as we only meet once a month.

**Question 1: Do you think that allowing Now Digital to extend the coverage area of its Exeter & Torbay local radio multiplex licence to include North Devon would unacceptably narrow the range of DAB programme services**

**available in the Exeter and Torbay area? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

If coverage is extended could this potentially mean a less local service due to the need/desire to obtain greater local public interest over the wider area

**Question 2: Do you think that allowing Now Digital to extend the coverage area of its Exeter & Torbay local radio multiplex licence to include North Devon would be calculated to maintain or promote the development of digital sound broadcasting in the UK otherwise than by satellite? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

I understand that the take up of DAB radios in the area is very small taking this factor into account together with an initial coverage of only 50% of households I cannot see this proposal maintaining or promoting DAB broadcasting.

**Question 3: Do you think that Now Digital's proposals for providing coverage of North Devon are satisfactory? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

No due to the inability to provide coverage to 100% of households. This area has and still suffers from lack of coverage for both mobile phones and broadband services. Providers like to cherry pick and do not provide adequate coverage.

**Question 4: Do you consider that Now Digital has the ability to maintain its local radio multiplex service if its request is granted? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

No as in my response to Q3 I doubt if they have the financial backing (or the will) to provide the required infrastructure to provide 100% coverage of the area

**Question 5: (For programme service providers on the Exeter & Torbay local radio multiplex only) Do you consider that there are sufficient safeguards in place to protect your rights and interests in the event that Now Digital is permitted to extend coverage to include North Devon?:**

**Question 6: Do you consider that there any other grounds on which Ofcom should approve, or not approve, the request from Now Digital? Please explain the reasons for your view.:**

This request should not be approved

1 Lack of full coverage

2 Likelihood of early switch off of exsisting FM transmissions.

This area is noted as being financialy deprived and the expectation that already streched famillies can readily change to DAB radios is just not realistic. In this rural area farm workers and contractors machinery operators spend many hours with the radio being the sole source of company and entertainment, existing radios (including car)radios will be rendered obsolete