

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Kevin

Surname:

Woodward

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:

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.:

I am based in North Devon, so am unsure how this would affect Exeter & Torbay, but I suspect that there would be little change to the services available to Exeter & Torbay!

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.:

Unsure, but I would suspect that by extending digital coverage can only improve the development of digital radio, subject to my response in question 6!

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.:

North Devon is a very rural area and therefore it is unlikely that any digital signal broadcast from the proposed transmitters would provide a good enough signal to cover enough of the area to make it efficient - there will be far too many blank spots making it frustrating as a listener to be loyal to any particular radio station!

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.:

I have no view on this matter!

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?:

Being based in North Devon I have no view on this matter!

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.:

I think that Ofcom should not approve the request from Now Digital as it provides inadequate coverage of the area and that the investment is unlikely to materialise because of this inadequacy until very late in the day. I suggest that the FM license be re-advertised and the addition of digital radio to North Devon be delayed until guarantees can be put in place, and the technology improved, so that a greater percentage of the area is covered!