

## **What are your comments on these proposals?:**

I wish to comment on Proposal 5. Quite frankly I am astonished by this proposal. I note the results of your survey. However, I cannot understand how you can possibly think that moving to mono broadcasting is progress. The introduction of Stereo FM broadcasting was a milestone in radio broadcasting. DAB promised another milestone with "Near CD" quality. With the exception of Radio 3, most stations fail to live up to these promises. Whilst I do not share some of the views that most DAB is inferior to FM, I continue to be amazed that mono DAB is somehow regarded as acceptable except for news and sport stations. Mono is OK for Five Live, but I cannot possibly understand how it can be viewed as acceptable for a station such as BBC7 where, despite the archive material, most of the programmes were recorded in stereo. Even more gobsmacking is the introduction of theJazz in glorious mono.

As a regular listener to stations in mono that continue to disappoint, I would suggest rather than offering more quantity, the issue of quality is addressed. From my experience of listening, I would suggest that 128kbps stereo should be the absolute minimum for stations such as Radio 4 and BBC7 and that 192kbps stereo should be the norm for music stations. I would therefore suggest that Proposal 5 is reversed and that consideration be given to moving from mono to stereo prior to any consideration of further stations.