

I am a private individual and UK resident. I am against the switch off of AM and FM radio and for there to only be digital 'DAB' radio. The reason for this is that I am an audiophile in that I appreciate the best sound quality that I can afford from the music that I listen to. The problem with DAB radio is that it that at present the available bandwidth has been used to maximise content at the expense of quality and typically DAB broadcasts are transmitted at a substantially lower bit rate than Compact disc audio, for instance. With appropriate reception equipment, present FM radio broadcasts are available with a much higher sound quality. I could therefore only support a switch to DAB if all DAB stations (or at least the principal DAB radio stations) were broadcast at at least CD quality bit rates if not better.

On a separate point, I would be concerned if the present AM bands were lost from broadcast radio as the extra transmission range that these wavelengths enable is important for shipping and rural areas.