



# Community Digital Sound Programme (C-DSP) licence

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## Application form – Part A (public)

Name of applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

Vectis Radio CIC

Proposed service name:

Vectis Radio

Radio multiplex service(s) on which the proposed C-DSP service is to be provided (note this must be a small-scale multiplex area either previously advertised or currently being advertised by Ofcom as shown in the multiplex licence advertisement)

Isle of Wight

Public contact details (i.e. Contact name and/or company name, company address, telephone number(s) and email):

Kelvin Currie, Vectis Radio CIC,, The Riverside Centre, Newport PO30 2QR

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# 1. Overview

You should complete this form if you are applying for a community digital sound programme licence (“C-DSP”). You can find further information about C-DSP services in the [guidance notes for licensees and applicants](#).

This application form is divided into two parts – **Part A** (which we will publish on our website) and **Part B** (which will be kept confidential). This document constitutes Part A; [Part B of the application form](#) is available on our website.

If you encounter any issues using these forms, please contact [broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk).

## The purpose of this form

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You should complete this form if you are applying for a Community Digital Sound Programme (C-DSP) licence.

A digital sound programme service intended for broadcast by means of a local or small-scale radio multiplex service requires either a C-DSP licence or a local DSP licence. Ofcom’s published guidance notes set out some of the key issues that potential applicants need to consider in deciding which type of licence is suitable for them. In summary, C-DSP services are not run for financial gain and are required to provide social gain. C-DSP licences therefore include strict conditions to ensure that happens, and provide less flexibility than a local DSP licence. However, they do provide access to capacity that small-scale radio multiplex service providers are required to reserve solely for C-DSP services.

A C-DSP licence will be required even if the same programme service is also provided on any other platforms (e.g. FM, satellite), as separate licences are required for those.

As noted above, small-scale radio multiplex services will have reserved capacity for C-DSP services. Issue of a C-DSP licence does not, however, guarantee carriage on a small-scale (or local) radio multiplex service. That is a matter for agreement between the C-DSP licensee and the multiplex service provider, and there may be more C-DSP licences issued in a locality than there are reserved slots on the small-scale radio multiplex service. Note that a C-DSP service does not necessarily have to broadcast using reserved capacity. It can use unreserved capacity on a small-scale radio multiplex service or capacity on a local radio multiplex service, again subject to agreement with the multiplex service provider.

An application for a C-DSP licence will be accepted only once Ofcom has advertised the licence for the small-scale radio multiplex service upon which the proposed C-DSP service is intended to be provided. There is no closing-date by which an application for a C-DSP licence must be submitted (i.e. it can be submitted at any time after the licence for the relevant small-scale radio multiplex licence has been advertised).

You can find further information about how to determine if a service requires a C-DSP licence in Section 2 of the [guidance notes for applicants and licensees](#).

## Provision of information

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Ofcom requires complete and accurate information to assess applications. This is so that we can assess your application against statutory criteria, consider whether those involved in the body applying for a licence are 'fit and proper' to hold a licence, and determine whether their involvement with other organisations disqualifies them from participation in a licence.

It is an offence under the Broadcasting Act 1996 (as amended) to provide false information or withhold relevant information during the application process, and may be grounds for revocation of a licence subsequently granted.

## Publication of information about applications and licensed services

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Information provided in **Part A** of the application form will typically be published by Ofcom in our Monthly Radio Update publication the month following the submission of your application. This may take longer if the application is received late in the month. Information provided in **Part B** will not be published.

In submitting this application you agree that, should a licence be granted, Ofcom may publish contact details for the licensee (specified in Section 2 of Part B of the application form), which may include personal data, on the Ofcom website and/or in other relevant publications. If you have any questions about the information that we publish, or there are any changes to this information, you should contact the Broadcast Licensing team by email ([broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk)).

Ofcom considers issued C-DSP licences to be public documents and copies of licences will be made available to third parties on request albeit, other than the Key Commitments which are tailored to the service, C-DSP licences are standard form documents. A brief description of the licensed service will be published on the Ofcom website, along with the Key Commitments which form part of the licence.

Ofcom publishes a [monthly radio licensing update](#) which lists new services licensed, new applications, licences revoked, licence transfers, and changes to licensed services during the past month.

## Data protection

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We require the information requested in this form in order to carry out our licensing duties under the Broadcasting Act 1990, Broadcasting Act 1996 and Communications Act 2003. Please see Ofcom's [General Privacy Statement](#) for further information about how Ofcom handles your personal information and your corresponding rights.

## Keeping up to date with broadcasting matters

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We strongly recommend that the appropriate person at the applicant body signs up to receive Ofcom's regular email updates on broadcasting matters including notification when the Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin is published.

To sign up to receive these communications, you must visit the [email updates](#) area of our website and select 'Broadcasting.'

## 2. Applicant's details

### About this section

In this section we are asking you for details about the applicant company. This must be a body corporate which is not profit distributing.

In the first part of this section, we are asking for basic details about the applicant. These include company registration number and contact information.

In the second part of this section we are asking for details of the applicant's officers (directors or, in the case of LLPs, designated members), its shareholders and participants. Where applicable, we are also asking for details of the officers of the applicant's parent and associated companies or LLPs etc.

If any of the individuals named in your responses are known by more than one name/version of their name, all names must be provided.

Certain persons are disqualified from holding a C-DSP licence. This section asks the questions which enable us to consider this for those types of disqualification which apply specifically to bodies corporate. It also asks questions which are relevant to our assessment of the applicant's fitness and properness to hold a C-DSP licence.

Before completing this section of the form, you should read [Ofcom's guidance on the definition of 'control' of media companies](#). Throughout this section, "control" has the meaning it is given in Part I of Schedule 2 of the Broadcasting Act 1990.

The response boxes and tables should be expanded or repeated where necessary, or provided in a separate annex.

'Officerships' in this section refers to: directorships of bodies corporate, designated memberships of LLPs, or membership of a governing body of an unincorporated association (including partnerships).

### Applicant information and contact details

2.1 Name of applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

Vectis Radio CIC

2.2 Company registration number stated on Companies House:

07028730

2.3 For UK registered companies, the address of the applicant's registered office stated on Companies House.

For non-UK registered companies, the principal office address:

**Macfield, Gunville West, Newport, Isle of Wight, England, PO30 5LJ**

2.4 If a UK registered company, is the current Memorandum and Articles of Association document available on the Companies House website?

Yes  No

If no, please submit the up to date document and indicate you have done so in the checklist in Section 4 of Part B.

2.5 Contact details of the individual duly authorised by the applicant for the purposes of making this application. This individual should be the company secretary, a director or (if an LLP) designated member.

(If you are an agent completing the form on behalf of the applicant please do not enter your details here – see paragraph 2.25 of the [guidance notes](#)).

Full name	Kelvin Milton Currie
Job title	Director
Address	37 Golden Ridge, Freshwater, Isle of Wight. PO40 9LF
Telephone	01983 754620
Mobile	07925 712085
Email	kelvin.currie@vectisradio.fm

2.6 If the proposed Licensed Service has/will have a website, please provide the website address below.

[www.vectisradio.com](http://www.vectisradio.com)

2.7 How will the service be financed? If the applicant is receiving, or is likely to receive, any form of funding and/or financial assistance to establish and maintain the service, please provide details of who is providing that funding/financial assistance and the extent of it.

If you are receiving funding from, or on behalf of, a source that could be considered a political organisation or a religious body, you must set out the nature of that organisation here.

The service will be financed in the same way that the existing Vectis Radio is financed now, i.e. Grant Funding, Advertising, Fundraising and small training/educational projects for the local authority and others. None of these constitute a political or religious body.

## Ownership and control of the company which will hold the licence

### Details of officers, participants and shareholders of the applicant

2.8 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to provide the following details for each director or designated member of the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

Full name of individual	Correspondence address <sup>1</sup>	Country of residence	Other officerships held (and nature of the business concerned)	Other employment
Trevor Anthony Cook	Macfield, Gunville West, Newport, Isle of Wight, England, PO30 5LJ	England	Director of GoInternet Ltd 07251276 VECTIS RADIO C.I.C. (07028730)	None
Kelvin Milton Currie	Macfield, Gunville West, Newport, Isle of Wight, England, PO30 5LJ	England	Director of: NEWPORT MASONIC CENTRE LTD (16020788) WIGHT DIGITAL RADIO CIC (15682643) VECTIS RADIO C.I.C. (07028730)	None
Ian McLaughlin	Macfield, Gunville West, Newport, Isle of Wight, England, PO30 5LJ	England	VECTIS RADIO C.I.C. (07028730)	None
Kieren John Thompson	Macfield, Gunville West, Newport, Isle of Wight,	England	VECTIS RADIO C.I.C. (07028730)	Marketing and Communications Executive at

<sup>1</sup> This should be the same address as is held and published by Companies House.

	England, PO30 5LJ			Energy Saving Trust.
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2.9 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, amounting to more than 5% in the applicant (“participants”). If you are unable to provide a complete answer to this question in relation to beneficial owners, please state whether you have any reason to suspect the existence of any beneficial owners.

Full name of >5% participant (existing and pro-posed)	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
Mr Kelvin Milton Currie	10	10	50	25
Mr Ian Mclaughlin	10	10	50	25
Comments				

2.10 Complete the following table, expanding if necessary, to identify any entities with which the applicant is affiliated. By affiliated, we mean companies that are related through ownership, either with one company being a minority shareholder in the other, or through multiple companies being owned by a third party.

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of the entity	Address
N/A	

2.11 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list any bodies corporate which are controlled by the applicant, and their affiliates:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of the entity	Address	Affiliates
N/A		

#### Details of persons who control the applicant

2.12 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all persons who control the applicant, together with their affiliates. If any persons or bodies control the applicant jointly because they act together in concert (e.g. because of a shareholder’s agreement), each such person must be identified here:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of individual or body	Address	Affiliates
N/A		

2.13 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all officerships in other bodies that are held by any individual listed in response to question 2.12, and any affiliates of those bodies. An “officership” refers to being a director of a body corporate, designated member of a limited liability partnership, or member of the governing body of an unincorporated association:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table)

Full name of individual	Name of body in which officership held	Affiliates of that body
N/A		

2.14 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies corporate which are controlled by any body corporate listed in response to question 2.12, and their affiliates:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond "N/A" in the table)

Full name of body corporate listed in 2.11	Body corporate controlled	Affiliates of body corporate controlled
N/A		

2.15 In relation to each body corporate identified in response to question 2.12, complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, amounting to more than 5% in the body corporate concerned (i.e. "participants"). You may, but are not required to, exclude from this table any bodies listed in response to question 2.12. If you are unable to provide a complete answer to this question in relation to beneficial owners, please state whether you have any reason to suspect the existence of any beneficial owners.

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond "N/A" in the table)

Name of body corporate identified in response to question 2.11				
Full name of >5% participant	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
N/A				
Comments				

### Involvement of the applicant in specified activities

2.16 Please state below whether the applicant, or any of the directors, shareholders or other individuals named above, including their associates (i.e. directors of their associates and other group companies), is, or is involved in, any of the below, and the extent of that interest.

Activity/involvement	Yes / No	Please state who is involved; the name of the body/individual/agency they are involved with; and the extent of their involvement
a) A local authority	No	
b) A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a political nature, or which is affiliated to such a body	No	
c) A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a religious nature; <sup>2</sup>	No	
d) An individual who is an officer of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	
e) A body corporate which is an associate (as defined in paragraphs 1(1) and 1(1A) of Part I of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990) of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	
f) An advertising agency or an associate of an advertising agency	No	

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to Sections 3 to 5 of [Ofcom's religious guidance note](#) for details on how we determine the eligibility of religious bodies to hold certain broadcasting licences.

**Details of applications, licences and sanctions**

2.17 Is the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) a current licensee of Ofcom?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the licence details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of multiplex
CR 101286	Vectis Radio (FM Licence)

2.18 Has the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) held an Ofcom broadcasting licence before?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
CR 101286	Vectis Radio (FM Licence – current)

2.19 Has anyone involved in the proposed service held an Ofcom broadcasting licence or been involved in an Ofcom-licensed broadcast service before?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the details expanding the table if necessary:

Dates licence was held or dates of involvement	Licence number (if known)	Name of service or multiplex
4-11-2017 - current	CR 101286	Vectis Radio

2.20 Does the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) control an existing Ofcom licensee?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the licence details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
CR 101286	Vectis Radio

2.21 Is the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) controlled by an existing licensee or by any person who is connected (within the meaning of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990) with an existing licensee (i.e. as a “participant”)?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the following information, expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex

2.22 Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant - made any other application to Ofcom (or its predecessor broadcast regulators – the Independent Television Commission and the Radio Authority) for any licence which has since been surrendered by the licensee or revoked by Ofcom (or one of its predecessor regulators)?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the following information, expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex

2.23 Is the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant - subject to any current or pending investigation by any statutory regulatory or government body in the United Kingdom or abroad in respect of any broadcast-related matter?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the following details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number (or equivalent)	Name of service or multiplex	Details of the investigation

2.24 Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – ever been subject to a statutory sanction for contravening a condition of a broadcasting licence in the UK or any other jurisdiction?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the following details relating to each sanction expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number (or equivalent)	Name of service or multiplex	Nature of the breach	Sanction imposed	Date sanction imposed

2.25 Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – ever been convicted of an unlicensed broadcasting offence?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the following details:

Full name	Date of conviction/action (dd/mm/yy)	Penalty

2.26 Please provide any further information you hold, relating to the past conduct of the applicant or those individuals listed, in regulatory matters or in matters going to honesty and/or compliance, which may be relevant to Ofcom's consideration of whether or not the applicant is fit and proper to hold a broadcast licence. If the applicant or the form signatory fails without reasonable excuse at this point to declare any matter of which Ofcom subsequently becomes aware, and which we do consider to be relevant to the applicant's eligibility to hold a licence, we will take it into account in determining the question of whether the applicant/licensee remains fit and proper to hold a licence.

If you have no information to provide, please respond "N/A".

We have held an existing FM Community Radio Licence since 2017 with no breaches or sanctions.



## 3. The proposed service

### About this section

This section asks you to describe your proposed service, including the Key Commitments you propose to include in your licence. This includes your service name, multiplex name and character of service, in addition to standard commitments that all C-DSP licensees need to abide by. Holders of an existing analogue community radio licence to be a simul-cast on the proposed C-DSP service can replicate the existing analogue key commitments as it is our expectation that the key commitments for simulcast services are to be in keeping with one another. If a licence is granted, the information you provide in this section will be used to form the basis of the annex to your licence. You will only be authorised to broadcast what is detailed in the annex of the licence.

In this section, you will also need to set out how your service will provide social gain, community participation and how you will be accountable to the target community. This is in line with statutory requirements for the granting of C-DSP licences. **The information provided in this section is also the basis on which decisions are made.**

If you hold, or intend to hold, multiple C-DSP licences, the answers given in this section and the intended delivery of your Key Commitments must apply to the locality in which your proposed service will broadcast (as set out in the Draft Key Commitments in this application form).

### Your proposed service and target community

3.1 What is the proposed service name?

Vectis Radio

3.2 On which radio multiplex service do you intend to broadcast? If the relevant radio multiplex licence has not yet been awarded, please state the name of the area that the multiplex service is intended to cover, as defined in the multiplex licence advertisement.

Isle of Wight

3.3 Where is your proposed studio located? Please note that this must be located within the coverage area of the small-scale radio multiplex service identified in answer to 3.2 (or the advertised area for a small-scale radio multiplex service that has not yet been awarded).<sup>3</sup>

Newport Isle of Wight

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<sup>3</sup> If you propose to provide your service on a local, rather than a small-scale, radio multiplex service, there is no requirement for your studio to be located within the licensed area of that local radio multiplex service.



- 3.4 If the proposed service is a simulcast or corresponding service of an existing licensed radio service, please list that below and provide the licence number.

Vectis Radio CR 101286

- 3.5 What is the target community of the service? Please include the geographical area that you wish to serve in addition to the interests or characteristics that define your target community. The area you wish to serve must be geographically located within the coverage area of the radio multiplex service on which you intend to broadcast. **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

The target community represents an expansion of our existing analogue licence area. Our focus remains on serving the County Town of Newport, supporting people of all ages, local community initiatives, and small local businesses. With the introduction of DAB, our coverage will extend to include more outlying areas and towns across the Isle of Wight.

We will continue to deliver the same successful mix of entertainment, education, and local information that we have provided on FM since 2017, but with the ability of reaching a broader island audience.

- 3.6 How will you ensure that your proposed C-DSP service is run on a not-for-profit basis? Please give details of specific measures or arrangements in place to ensure this, and how any profit will be wholly and exclusively used for securing or improving the future provision of the service, or for the delivery of social gain. **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

The C-DSP service will be run exactly on the same lines as the current FM station. That is run by a CIC on a not for profit basis with any surplus being invested back into equipment & services for the station. Legally a CIC must have an asset lock to ensure assets and profits are used for community purposes rather than private gain.

### Social gain

- 3.7 What community benefits will your service bring to your target community(ies) and, if applicable, the general public. Please include summaries of evidence to support your answer, including details about other organisations you intend to work with. **Answer in fewer than 500 words.** Please do not provide names of individuals in your answer.

The DAB service will future proof the current service provided by Vectis Radio under its current analogue licence. The benefits we currently bring to the community will be the same, but more readily receivable across an expanded area

as technology progresses. Vectis Radio is proud to be the Isle of Wight's true community radio station. Founded in 2010 as an internet-only station, our mission has always been simple: to give islanders a voice. As a not-for-profit organisation, we are driven by passion, dedication, and a deep commitment to the community we serve.

Over the years, we have given countless islanders the opportunity to step behind the microphone, develop new skills, and share their stories. In 2013, we launched the Vectis Radio 4Ps Training School, a pioneering project that helps young people build confidence and communication skills through radio. The four Ps — Presenting, Producing, Podcasting, and Promoting — provide hands-on experience, nurturing self-belief, teamwork, and practical skills that last a lifetime.

We've seen first-hand how these opportunities can change lives. As a testament to this, we have received numerous awards since being on FM in late 2017. These include, but are not limited to The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2020, The ARIAS Community Station of the year 2023 and numerous Community Radio Awards in many categories. For a small station we aim high and DAB will help us cement that for years to come. We currently work with the following organisation. IW Scouting, IW Rotary, IW RSPCA, IW Cats Centre, IW Council, Sight for Wight, Hants & IW PCC, Wildheart Animal Sanctuary, Isle of Wight Lord Lieutenant, IW High Sheriff, Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society, Newport Minster and many more.

- 3.8 Please summarise how your service will facilitate discussion and the expression of opinion. **Answer in fewer than 200 words.**

As we do now on FM, Vectis Radio on DAB will provide people on the Isle of Wight with easy access to airtime and a dedicated platform to discuss issues that matter to them. This will include inviting local interest groups to take part in interviews and debates, as well as hosting discussions with local political representatives and key organisations that have a significant impact on young people's lives. These organisations may include, but are not limited to, ferry operators, bus and rail companies, the local NHS Trust, and Island Roads, IW Council, Police & Crime Commissioner and MPs. By creating this open public forum, people will be empowered to explore the topics that affect their daily lives and engage directly with the organisations that shape their future. This approach offers a level of access and involvement that no other radio station on the Isle of Wight currently provides, ensuring young voices are heard, respected, and taken seriously.

- 3.9 How will you ensure that members of your target community(ies) can gain access to the facilities used to provide your service, and receive training in using these? In particular, please set out how this will be done practically, formally and/or informally. **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

The introduction of DAB broadcasting will allow Vectis Radio to expand its existing training provision and continue delivering its highly successful 4Ps project. This programme offers young people aged 11–19, as well as young adults, the opportunity to develop skills in Presenting, Promoting, Producing, and Podcasting. Working in partnership with the local authority, mainstream and specialist schools, and local training providers, the project enables young people to build practical media skills while significantly improving their confidence and communication abilities. Participants gain hands-on experience by broadcasting live on air at least once, alongside creating their own pre-recorded content and/or news bulletins for broadcast. This activity not only benefits those taking part but also engages the wider listening audience, inspiring interest in the course from friends, families, parents, and carers. The programme has received numerous letters of praise and has led many participants to go on to create their own shows, showcasing their individual interests and talents. In addition, Vectis Radio offers full training to any member of the public who wishes to become part of the Vectis Radio team, ensuring opportunities for learning and involvement are open to all.

- 3.10 How will your service provide better understanding of your target community and the strengthening of links within it? **Answer in fewer than 200 words.**

Accurate information and shared knowledge are essential in reducing misunderstanding and challenging prejudice. In an age where social media often spreads questionable or misleading “facts” to wide audiences, Vectis Radio is committed to presenting clear, accurate, and unbiased information. The introduction of DAB broadcasting will allow this vital work to reach a much wider audience across the Isle of Wight. By expanding our reach, we can strengthen community understanding of the issues people face and support local efforts to address them in a positive and informed way.

- 3.11 Please summarise the relevant experience of the group or its members in activities related to the provision of social gain or other relevant non-broadcast areas (such as third sector, training or education). **Answer in fewer than 200 words.**

The management team includes individuals with extensive experience in broadcast radio programming and output, alongside highly experienced engineers and technical specialists. In addition, the wider team includes members with backgrounds in teaching at both secondary school and college level, who have applied their educational expertise to Vectis Radio since its inception.

Having operated an internet radio station since 2010 and a licensed FM service since 2017, Vectis Radio brings a wealth of knowledge and proven experience. This expertise will be fully utilised to support the expanded audience reach and opportunities made possible through the introduction of DAB broadcasting.

## Participation

- 3.12 How do you propose to ensure that members of your target community(ies) are given opportunities to participate in the operation and management of the service? **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

Vectis Radio is committed to ensuring that members of its target community have fair and equal access to its facilities and to training in their use. We operate a clear equal opportunities policy and actively encourage participation from people of all backgrounds. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, social class, background, or creed.

We currently run a successful and established training scheme, which will continue as part of our service. Subject to available staffing and resources, we aim to involve as many members of the community as possible. Training is delivered in a supportive and inclusive environment and is designed to build confidence, communication skills, and practical broadcasting experience.

Vectis Radio has access to professional broadcast equipment, including outside broadcast kits that are identical to those used in the main on-air studio. This allows community members to receive hands-on training using real broadcast equipment in a non-broadcast setting, ensuring they are confident and competent before contributing on air.

Our studios are based at the Riverside Centre in Newport, a well-established community hub that specialises in providing services to the widest possible section of the community, including people with disabilities and additional needs. The Centre is fully accessible, with wheelchair-accessible parking, step-free access throughout the building, accessible toilet facilities, and trained staff on site.

The radio studios themselves have been designed with accessibility in mind, including the presenter area, enabling people with mobility issues or other access requirements to participate fully in training and broadcasting activities. As the Riverside Centre is widely recognised locally for its accessibility, visitors attending the Centre for other purposes are made aware of Vectis Radio's presence and reasonably expect it to be equally accessible.

Through these measures, Vectis Radio ensures that access to facilities and training is open, inclusive, and representative of the whole community we serve.

## Accountability

- 3.13 How will members of your target community contact your service and influence its operation? **Answer in fewer than 300 words.**

Accessibility is central to everything Vectis Radio does. This extends beyond physical access, as outlined previously, to include accessibility for listeners and members of the wider community. With the introduction of DAB, this commitment will continue and expand, enabling us to reach and engage a broader audience across the Isle of Wight.

Our approach to accessibility includes the following:

**Day-to-day audience involvement:**

Listeners and community members are encouraged to interact with the station through a variety of channels, including email to the studio or Station Manager, social media, telephone, and WhatsApp. This engagement may take the form of contributions to programmes, comments or participation in debates, music requests, suggestions for programme content, and live interaction with presenters.

**Community engagement and consultation:**

Vectis Radio holds regular formal and informal meetings where members of the public, community leaders, local businesses, and representatives from local authorities are invited to engage with the station. These meetings provide opportunities to promote the station, review its progress, and gather ideas and feedback to inform future development of our programming and wider activities.

**Management and accountability:**

Vectis Radio is managed on a day-to-day basis by a Station Manager, who is accountable to the Board of Directors. This structure ensures effective oversight, transparency, and accountability in the delivery of the service.

- 3.14 How will suggestions and/or criticisms from members of your target community(ies) be considered and acted upon? **Answer in fewer than 300 words.**

A formal complaints procedure is already in place and will continue to be used to address any complaints received by post, email, or other electronic means. This procedure applies to complaints from individuals, businesses, community organisations, statutory bodies, and other stakeholders.

Suggestions from the local community regarding programming, music policy, or potential new shows will also be handled through a formal process. These submissions will be considered by the Station Manager, who will discuss the proposal with the individual or organisation making the suggestion. Where appropriate, and where the Station Manager considers the proposal to be a good fit for Vectis Radio, it may be incorporated into the broadcast schedule.

If necessary, appeals against the Station Manager's decision may be made directly to the Board of Directors for further consideration.

## Draft Key Commitments

Below is an example of the licence annex where the Key Commitments appear. Should a licence be awarded, the entries you provide below will form the Key Commitments section of your licence. Holders of a community radio analogue licence that is to be simulcast, or a corresponding service, are expected to provide key commitments that are in line with their existing service(s). As such, applicants may refer to the existing key commitments of the relevant simulcast or corresponding service(s) to ensure that the draft below is in line with those of the existing service(s).

Please provide entries where specified in **BOLD** below. The information you enter here should reflect your answers to Sections 3 and 4 of the Part A of your completed Application Form. This will form the basis of your Key Commitments alongside the mandatory text in italics. Do not amend the text in italics as every service is required to comply with these requirements, but the details of how each service does so do not need to be included in the Key Commitments.

### ANNEX TO LICENCE

**LICENSED SERVICE NO**                      tbc

Licensed Service	Vectis Radio
Service Description	<p>Vectis Radio is an existing analogue radio service intended to serve Newport on the Isle of Wight.</p> <p>The key commitments for DAB will be the same as that of the FM service but the DAB addition will enable Vectis Radio to provide radio for the people by the people across more of the island, with a particular focus on young people, local musicians and community groups. It will continue to provide a service with a variety of music and speech programming, and offers access, training and participation, on the Isle of Wight, naturally bordered by the Solent &amp; The English Channel.</p> <p>The service already provides a range of community benefits (social gain objectives mandated by statute) for the target community, both on-air and off-air, and in doing so, achieves the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion,</li> <li>• the provision (whether by means of programmes included in the service or otherwise) of education or training to individuals not employed by the person providing the service, and</li> <li>• the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of links within it.</li> </ul> <p>Members of the target community contribute to the operation and management of the service.</p> <p>The service has mechanisms in place to ensure it is accountable to its target community.</p> <p>The studio of the Licensed Service is located within the coverage area of the Small-Scale Radio Multiplex Service identified above.</p>

Transmission Schedule	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Multiplex	Isle of Wight SSDAB multiplex

# 4. Compliance of the service

## About this section

This section asks you to describe the compliance arrangements for the proposed licensed service, i.e. the arrangements which the applicant will put in place to ensure that the content it proposes to broadcast will comply with the relevant regulatory codes and rules for programming and advertising. These include:

- The Ofcom Broadcasting Code
- The BCAP Code: the UK Code of Broadcast Advertising
- The Regulation of Premium Rate Services Order

Condition 17 of a C-DSP licence requires that you have compliance procedures in place, and this section asks that you demonstrate your ability to meet this licence condition.

Before completing this section of the form you should read Section 4 of the [C-DSP guidance notes](#), where you will also find links to the codes and rules listed above.

- 4.1 Please give details of all compliance training (including dates) the person named in response to either question 2.3 or 2.5 in Part B (i.e. the individual who holds overall responsibility for compliance of the service) has received in the relevant codes and rules (for example, those referred to in the box at the start of this section).

The designated compliance officer has not undertaken formal training in this area but has acquired substantial knowledge through several years of experience holding an analogue Community Radio licence. He has a thorough understanding of on-air content requirements as set out in the Ofcom Broadcasting Code and the BCAP Code for advertising. In addition, the designated Station Manager has decades of experience in the radio broadcasting industry and provides guidance and support to the compliance officer in all relevant matters. Both individuals are willing to undertake formal training should Ofcom require it.

- 4.2 Please give details of any practical compliance experience (including dates) the person named in response to either question 2.3 or 2.5 in Part B (i.e. the individual who holds overall responsibility for compliance of the service) has with respect to the relevant codes and rules.

Since applying for and managing a Community Radio station in 2017, the designated officer has regularly referred to relevant legislation and Ofcom guidance in relation to both on-air content and technical operations. This has included, for example, a blanket refusal to carry tobacco sponsorship in 2022, revisions to on-air content in 2019 to more accurately reflect the station's key commitments at that time, and notifying Ofcom of transmission outages in accordance with regulatory requirements.

The designated officer has also worked alongside the Station Manager to advise specialist music programme presenters on the need to thoroughly vet music

content for unacceptable words and phrases, while also explaining the importance of providing appropriate context for certain historic recordings that may contain language less acceptable to contemporary audiences. Many of these responsibilities are ongoing.

- 4.3 For each role within your compliance team please provide job title and a brief description of the functions of the role specific to ensuring compliance of the proposed service. Please do not give names of individual members of staff – this question relates to job roles rather than currently employed individuals.

The compliance team consists of The Compliance Officer (a director) and the station manager, also a director. The likely paths of listener complaints will be initially to the Station Manager who assesses them in conjunction with the Compliance officer to establish if they are compliance matter or of another nature.

If the complaint is a compliance matter, the Compliance Officer will resolve the issue with reference to the current regulations and establish the method of resolution with the Station Manager.

- 4.4 How does the applicant intend to formally train staff in compliance procedures? Please include details of the compliance training that will be given to those responsible for live programming, including compliance staff, presenters and producers.

The Station Manager is responsible for training all presenters about their responsibilities and all presenters sign a contract indicating that they understand their responsibilities. This training is agreed in advance with the compliance officer and is carried out before presenters start on-air training.

- 4.5 Will the training described in response to question 4.5 be mandatory for all staff and volunteers? If not, outline who will receive it.

Yes, training is mandatory for all volunteers, even if not on-air presenters.

- 4.6 It is a licence requirement that a licensee must ensure that all programming on its service (broadcast at any time of the day or night) complies with Ofcom's codes and rules (e.g. Ofcom's Broadcasting Code, which sets requirements on standards to be observed in programme content for the protection of the public).

☐) Set out in detail below the systems the applicant intends to have in place to ensure it will be able to comply with the codes and rules when the service is broadcasting live content. Your response should include details of what you will do to prepare presenters

and guests pre-broadcast and the process for ensuring that any non-complaint content is dealt with swiftly during the broadcast.

The systems required for compliance are already in place under our existing FM licence. These involve the Compliance Officer and Station Manager jointly reviewing and interpreting the relevant codes and regulations and communicating their requirements to presenting volunteers. Volunteers are trained to understand both the regulatory obligations and the procedures for dealing with any issues that may arise.

For example, presenters fully understand that swearing, as defined in Ofcom guidance, is not permitted, and they are required to brief guests accordingly prior to broadcast. All presenters are aware that if any inappropriate language is used on air, an immediate apology must be issued by the presenter and the incident referred to the Station Manager. Any further action required is then determined jointly by the Compliance Officer and Station Manager.

- 2) Set out in detail below how the applicant intends to ensure that pre-recorded material will comply with Ofcom's codes and rules. Pre-recorded content could include, for example, material obtained from, or streamed from, third party sources as well as content produced by the licensee.

The arrangements for DAB broadcasting will mirror those already in place under our existing FM licence. Pre-recorded material is, and will continue to be, sourced from professional news and weather providers, well-known and established industry suppliers, and from content recorded locally by our own presenters. Our presenters are already trained in compliance procedures, as outlined above. Contracts with news providers include assurances regarding regulatory compliance, and our established working relationships with other recognised content providers provide confidence in their reliability and adherence to broadcast regulations.

- 4.7 Please set out how you will ensure the ongoing delivery/compliance of the **on-air** character of service as set out in the Key Commitments. This should be focused on the content you will broadcast on the station.

In your answer, please ensure you include details on each of the following points:

- a) How you will monitor that the character of service is being delivered;
- b) who will be responsible for monitoring this;
- c) how often will they monitor it;
- d) how you ensure this information is published; and
- e) where the information will be published/made publicly available.

For DAB, the procedures will be identical to those currently in place under our existing FM licence. The service is shaped by the programming overseen by the Station Manager and monitored by the Compliance Officer to ensure that the station's Key Commitments are met.

The Compliance Officer reviews on-air schedules and checks playlists on a weekly basis to confirm ongoing compliance with these commitments. This monitoring also includes a review of guests and community organisations featured on the service. Details of this monitoring will be published regularly on the station's website.

- 4.8 Please set out how you will ensure the ongoing delivery/compliance of the **off-air** social gain activities as set out in the Key Commitments.

In your answer, please ensure you include details on each of the following points:

- a) How you will monitor that off-air social gain activities are being delivered;
- b) who will be responsible for monitoring this;
- c) how often will they monitor it;
- d) how you ensure this information is published; and
- e) where the information will be published/made publicly available.

A central pillar of Vectis Radio's current commitments is the delivery of social gain, with a particular emphasis on education. These commitments will be maintained and fully carried forward under the DAB licence.

In particular, the **4Ps Training School**, launched in 2013, is a core initiative providing free training for young people in four key areas: Presenting, Producing, Podcasting and Promoting. The programme is designed to build confidence, self-esteem and practical communication skills, thereby improving participants' life chances and employability. Delivery and outcomes are monitored regularly, typically on a termly basis, by the Station Manager in conjunction with the Compliance Officer and relevant stakeholders, including the Isle of Wight Council, local schools and colleges.

In addition, the station actively promotes social inclusion by facilitating discussion and providing a platform for underserved and disadvantaged groups within the

local community. This approach will remain a fundamental part of the station's ethos on DAB, as it is under the existing FM licence. Monitoring of this activity is carried out on a largely weekly basis by the Station Manager, with reference to the Compliance Officer and, where appropriate, the Board of Directors. Information relating to these commitments and their delivery will be published on the Vectis Radio website and updated as appropriate.

4.9 What language(s) does the applicant intend to broadcast in?

English

4.10 For each language listed in response to question 4.9 please provide details of how many compliance team member(s) are fluent in each language and will be responsible for ensuring that content broadcast in that language complies with the Ofcom's code and rules. **Please do not give names of individual members of staff.**

All staff/volunteers have English as their first language.

# 5. Declaration

## About this section

This form must be submitted by the applicant named in response to question 2.2. An agent may not sign the form.

The person authorised to make the declaration on behalf of the applicant must print their name and must be one of the following :

- A director of the company or the company secretary where the applicant is a company.
- A designated member where the applicant is a Limited Liability Partnership.

The declaration must also be dated.

5.1 I hereby apply to Ofcom for the grant of a licence for the community digital sound programme service described above and declare that the information given in this application form is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.

5.2 I further declare and warrant:

- that I am not a disqualified person within the meaning of that expression as defined in Part II of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990, as amended, or as a result of a disqualification order under Section 145 of the Broadcasting Act 1996;
- that having made all reasonable enquiries neither the applicant nor any person controlling the applicant, as a result of the grant to me of the licence, breach any requirement of Schedule 14 to the Communications Act 2003 with regard to the accumulation of interests in broadcasting services or to the restrictions on cross-media interests; and
- that the applicant is not disqualified by virtue of the provisions of section 143 (5) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 in relation to political objects and the provisions of section 144 (3) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 in relation to the provision of false information or through the withholding of information with the intention of misleading Ofcom; and
- that no director or person concerned directly or indirectly in the management of the applicant is subject to a disqualification order as defined by section 145 (1) of the Broadcasting Act 1996.

5.3 I understand that Ofcom reserves the right to revoke the licence (if granted) if at any time any material statement made to Ofcom is found to be false and to have been by the applicant or any member or officer thereof knowing it to be false. I also understand that under sections 144 and 145 of the Broadcasting Act 1996, the provision of false information could incur a criminal conviction and a disqualification from the holding of a Broadcasting Act licence. I further certify that, to the best of my knowledge, any matters which might influence Ofcom's judgement as to whether the directors and any other individuals and/or bodies corporate with substantial involvement in this application are fit and proper persons to participate in a radio licence, have been made known to Ofcom.

**Full name (BLOCK CAPITALS) of the applicant or person authorised to make the application of behalf of the applicant:**

KELVIN MILTON CURRIE

**Date of application:**

11<sup>th</sup> February 2026

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant in my capacity as (**delete as appropriate**):

Company director

**You also need to complete the [confidential section \(Part B\) of the application form](#).**