

Chris Woods

Question	Your response
<p>Question 1: Do you agree with our provisional conclusions from our review of the BBC's assessment of the public value of the proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. the proposed DAB+ music stations; and II. 5 Sports Extra. <p>Please provide evidence to support your views, specifying which our conclusions you are referring to.</p>	<p>I broadly agree with the public value assessments, however the Radio 2 extension would potentially be able to access BBC archive material unavailable to commercial competitors, thus there is arguably no significant impact to the concurrent operation of commercial stations which predominantly play old chart music, as opposed to 'deep cuts' or live/session/archive material.</p>
<p>Question 2: Do you agree with our assessment of the likely impact of the proposals on fair and effective competition (including as set out in annex 1)? Please provide your answer and any supporting evidence separately for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. R1A, R1D and R3U; II. R2E; and III. 5SE 	<p>Broadly yes, it seems reasonably explained. I do not have all of the source statistics available to conduct my own detailed assessment.</p>
<p>Question 3: Do you agree with our provisional conclusions on the BBC's proposed changes to its radio services? Please provide evidence to support your views, indicating which of the BBC's proposed changes you are referring to.</p>	<p>I am concerned that the launch of DAB+ stations would require meaningful reduction of quality for existing BBC national DAB stations on the National ensemble. My worry is that this would noticeably reduce the audio quality and result in a deteriorated listening experience for both DAB and DAB+ stations, which are already quite poor in terms of their audio quality due to their bit rates. When qualitatively compared with the same stations accessed through their online streams, the quality difference is already very obvious, before reducing the DAB bit rates further to sandwich in 3 or 4 more stations.</p>

Question	Your response
	<p>If more stations are to launch, either all stations should convert to DAB+ to more efficiently utilise the existing multiplex bandwidth for the same given quality, or an additional national multiplex should be launched to host the new channels. A new mux could potentially also host commercial stations alongside the BBC extensions.</p>
<p>Question 4: Do you agree with our proposal not to set additional operating licence conditions on R1D, R1A and R3U if we approve them?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>