

Withdrawal of the notice of pre-advertisement

On 7 June 2021, Ofcom published a [notice of pre-advertisement](#) relating to the local analogue commercial radio licence on the FM (VHF) waveband for the Portsmouth area, currently held by Nation Broadcasting Investments (South) Ltd (broadcasting as 'Hits Radio'). Ofcom proposed to grant a further licence for this area, for a period from 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2034, and invited declarations of intent to apply for such a licence with a closing date of 3.00pm on 2 July 2021.

It has come to Ofcom's attention that, as a result of a clerical error when the existing licence was granted in 2015, it was inadvertently granted for a seven-year term (expiring on 31 July 2022), rather than a 12-year term as indicated in the 2014 re-advertisement for this licence. In these circumstances, Ofcom considers it to be appropriate to correct this error, subject to the licensee's consent, by varying the licence to extend its duration to 31 July 2027, as originally intended.

Therefore, Ofcom is withdrawing the notice of pre-advertisement and discontinuing the re-licensing process with immediate effect from the date of publication of this notice. From this date, we will therefore not be accepting declarations of intent, and we will be refunding in full all deposits that have already been paid to Ofcom in respect of any declarations of intent received by Ofcom prior to the date of this notice.

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