
Small-scale radio multiplex licence

Application form – Part A (public)

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

FUN COAST DIGITAL COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Multiplex licence area being applied for (note this must be a small-scale multiplex area currently being advertised by Ofcom):

BLACKPOOL

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1. Overview

The purpose of this form

- 1.1 You should complete this form if you are applying for a licence to provide a small-scale radio multiplex service (a ‘small-scale radio multiplex licence’). A small-scale radio multiplex service is the means by which DAB digital radio stations (‘digital sound programme services’) are broadcast, and can transmit around ten stereo digital sound programme services (or a significantly higher number if the DAB+ standard is utilised). The 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 [here](#).
- 1.2 Small-scale radio multiplex licences are awarded by Ofcom in a competitive process. Applications are judged against specified criteria, and Ofcom awards the licence to the applicant which it considers best meets the criteria.

How to complete the form

- 1.3 There are detailed instructions on how to complete this form, and information on the next steps in the application process, in our [guidance notes](#) for licence applicants and licensees. Please read this guidance and the frequently asked questions carefully before completing this form.
- 1.4 If you still have a query having read the guidance and FAQ, you can contact Ofcom’s Broadcast Licensing team by email (broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk). The team cannot provide advice or pre-approve applications, but can answer general questions.
- 1.5 Please download this form and fill it in on a computer. If completing by hand, please use block capitals and black ink.
- 1.6 Please answer all the questions as fully as possible, use extra sheets if required and provide the supporting documentation listed at Section 7 of Part B of the application form. Sufficient information must be supplied about the applicant and the proposed service to enable Ofcom to consider the application in accordance with the statutory criteria for the granting of small-scale radio multiplex licences. Ofcom may need to request further details from you before a licence can be granted.
- 1.7 **Ofcom reserves the right to reject applications made using an old version of the form.**
- 1.8 Ofcom will accept handwritten application forms but they must be filled in using block capitals and black ink.
- 1.9 **Ofcom reserves the right to reject application forms that are illegible.**
- 1.10 You must answer all questions in the application form and respond “N/A” to any questions that do not apply to the applicant.

1.11 Ofcom reserves the right to reject applications which do not meet the following criteria:

- a) The declarations in Section 6 of this form and in Section 8 of Part B of the application form must both be signed and dated.
- b) The person who signs and makes the declaration on behalf of the applicant must be:
 - i) A director of the company or the company secretary where the applicant is a company.
 - ii) A designated member where the applicant is a Limited Liability Partnership.
- c) All supporting documents as requested in the checklist at Section 7 of Part B of the application form must be supplied in legible form and translated into English where applicable.

1.12 If you are completing the form as an agent, i.e. you are acting on the applicant's behalf, please note that you cannot sign it on your client's behalf, and that the person signing the form needs to have personally checked the truth and completeness of the responses given. If your client wishes you to be Ofcom's main contact in relation to the application, please make this clear in an accompanying letter, and provide evidence of your authority to act on behalf of the applicant. The form should be filled in so as to include information about the applicant, not the agent. If Ofcom has further questions once the application has been submitted, we will direct these to the applicant, not to the agent, but we will accept responses from the agent.

How to submit the form

1.13 We prefer application forms and required supporting documents to be submitted by email to broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk. Handwritten applications and required supporting documents should be scanned and attached to the email.

1.14 You should receive an auto-response from broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk confirming that your application has been received by Ofcom. If you do not receive a response, it is likely your application has not been received and you should contact Ofcom's Contact Centre on 0300 123 3333 and ask for the Broadcast Licensing team who will be able to confirm if your application was received.

1.15 If the applicant cannot submit the application form and/or the supporting documentation by email, the applicant may submit the application and/or the supporting documentation by post to:

Ofcom
Broadcast Licensing
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 9HA

1.16 Those applicants who submit their application by post will be sent an acknowledgement.

Application fee

- 1.17 A non-refundable application fee of £500 is payable either by cheque made out to 'Ofcom' or by bank transfer.
- 1.18 Applications will not be assessed until the application fee has been received in Ofcom's bank account.
- 1.19 Ofcom requests that applicants pay the application fee by bank transfer and that immediately after the applicant has instructed their bank to make the payment, confirmation of payment is emailed to ofcom.remittances@ofcom.org.uk.
- 1.20 To ensure that Ofcom can identify the payment, it must include a payment reference which is the applicant's postcode followed by the applicant's name (or as much of the name as is possible to provide within the character limit set by the bank) as provided in response to question 3.1 of this application.
- 1.21 The bank details to be used to pay the application fee are:
- Account Name: Office of Communications
- Bank details: Lloyds Bank, 69-73 Borough High Street, London SE1 1NQ
- Account number: 00782415
- Sort code: 30-97-90
- BIC: LOYDGB21351
- IBAN: GB05 LOYD 3097 9000 7824 15
- SWIFT: LOYD GB 2L
- 1.22 If the applicant is unable to make the payment by bank transfer, a cheque should be made out to 'Ofcom' and sent in the post to Ofcom Broadcast Licensing team, Riverside House, 2a Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA. You must state the name of the applicant as provided in response to question 3.2 and proposed service name on the back of the cheque.
- 1.23 If an applicant is paying the application fee by cheque, the cheque must be received within five days of the application being received by Ofcom or the application may be rejected. If an applicant's cheque bounces, the application may be rejected.

Supporting documentation

- 1.24 You must provide a range of supporting documentation when submitting this application form. Please refer to the checklist at Section 7 of Part B of the application form for full details. Please note that failure to supply the necessary documents will delay your application.
- 1.25 **Ofcom reserves the right to reject applications with which the necessary documents are not supplied in legible form.**

- 1.26 Please note that Ofcom cannot receive emails larger than 35MB. If your application email exceeds this limit, please send your supporting documents in a separate email(s), clearly indicating the applicant's name in the subject line of the email.

Provision of information

- 1.27 Ofcom requires complete and accurate information to assess applications. In particular, we must be satisfied that those applying for a licence are 'fit and proper' to hold a licence and are not disqualified from participation in a licence.
- 1.28 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 applications

- 1.29 Part A of the application form (i.e. this document) will be published by Ofcom on our website as soon as practicable following the closing-date for applications. Because this is the 'public' part of the application form, and Ofcom is legally required to publish applications for public comments, **no questions should be answered by means of the submission of a confidential annex**. If, for logistical reasons, an annex is required to answer a question in Part A of the form, this will be published on our website alongside Part A of the application form. Part B of the application form will remain confidential.
- 1.30 Ofcom may take into account any comments received from the public, which can be made to it with respect to Part A of the application submitted.
- 1.31 In submitting Part A of the application, you agree that Ofcom may publish contact details for the licensee, which may include personal data, on the Ofcom website and/or in other relevant publications.
- 1.32 When a licence is granted, the name of the service and public contact details for the licensee will be published on the Ofcom website. These are the details supplied by the applicant in the application form. 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).
- 1.33 Ofcom considers issued small-scale radio multiplex licences to be public documents and copies of licences will be made available to third parties on request, noting that personal data apart from the name of the licensee may be redacted.

Data protection

- 1.34 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 www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/foi-

[dp/general-privacy-statement](#) for further information about how Ofcom handles your personal information and your corresponding rights.

Keeping up to date with broadcasting matters

- 1.35 We strongly recommend that you sign up to receive Ofcom's regular email updates on broadcasting matters including notification when the Broadcast Bulletin is published.
- 1.36 Ofcom publishes a [monthly radio licensing update](#) which lists new services licensed, licences revoked, licence transfers, and changes to licensed services during the past month.
- 1.37 To sign up to receive these communications, please visit <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/latest/email-updates> and select 'Broadcasting'.

2. Extent of proposed coverage area

About this section

Under section 51(2)(a) of the 1996 Act, we are required to consider the extent of the coverage area an applicant proposes to achieve within the area which has been advertised. This section therefore asks you to describe the coverage you are proposing to achieve. Further questions on the detailed technical arrangements for the proposed service, including questions on the transmission site(s) that you intend to use and your plans for how the multiplexing and distribution of your service will be arranged are contained in Part B of the application form.

Before completing this section of the form, you should read carefully the notes on 'Extent of proposed coverage area' in Section 4 of Ofcom's [Guidance notes for licence applicants and licensees](#).

Applicants should note there are confidential questions relating to extent of coverage area in Part B of the application form.

- 2.1 Provide a summary, fully consistent with the more detailed information about transmission sites supplied separately in Part B, of the coverage area proposed to be achieved by your technical plan. This should include a description of the target area you are seeking to serve within the advertised licence area, and also any areas you are aiming to serve outside the advertised licence area for this small-scale radio multiplex service. (You may refer to your coverage prediction in the response you provide):

The target area to be served constitutes an area 15 miles north to south, 15 miles east to west. The coast stretches from the port of Fleetwood in the north, down to the three distinct areas of Blackpool's seafront; north, central and south, and down to the Fylde towns of St Annes and Lytham. The bottom edge of the transmission area heads out to the city of Preston through rural villages, while the M55 motorway cuts through the centre of the area and the top edge borders with Lancaster.

The area is a mix of vibrant towns with Blackpool – which attracts 15 million tourists a year – as its focal point. Upmarket boutique towns like Lytham and Poulton contrast with more sedate towns like Cleveleys and Kirkham.

The Fylde Coast is far more than just a tourist destination. The highest number of jobs (22,000) are in health and social care while the visitor economy employs 19,000 people, manufacturing (19,000), there are 18,000 professional/financial jobs and 18,000 people work in retail. (Lancashire Enterprise Partnership data for the transmission area)

Blackpool is a unitary authority, while Wyre Borough to its north and Fylde Borough to the south fall in Lancashire County Council. See annex document with additional local information.

It is relatively flat terrain and will be covered from one site, Blackpool Tower at 158 metres in height, using a directional antenna. Blackpool’s iconic tower is ideally situated on the seafront, central to the broadcast area.

We expect very good coverage across the proposed area. By operating from a single site, that reduces costs and therefore makes DAB radio far more accessible to smaller community organisations.

The coverage prediction document in the annex details the percentage of the population served within the polygon and the estimated overlap with the Lancashire DAB multiplex, which we have kept to a minimum.

2.2 Provide summary details of the sites required to achieve this coverage by completing the table below (add additional rows as required):

Site Name	NGR	Antenna height (m agl)	Antenna type proposed with bearing	New or existing antenna	ERP (W)
Blackpool Tower	SD306360	158m	Directional 90deg ETN - 2-ele Yagi	New	100W

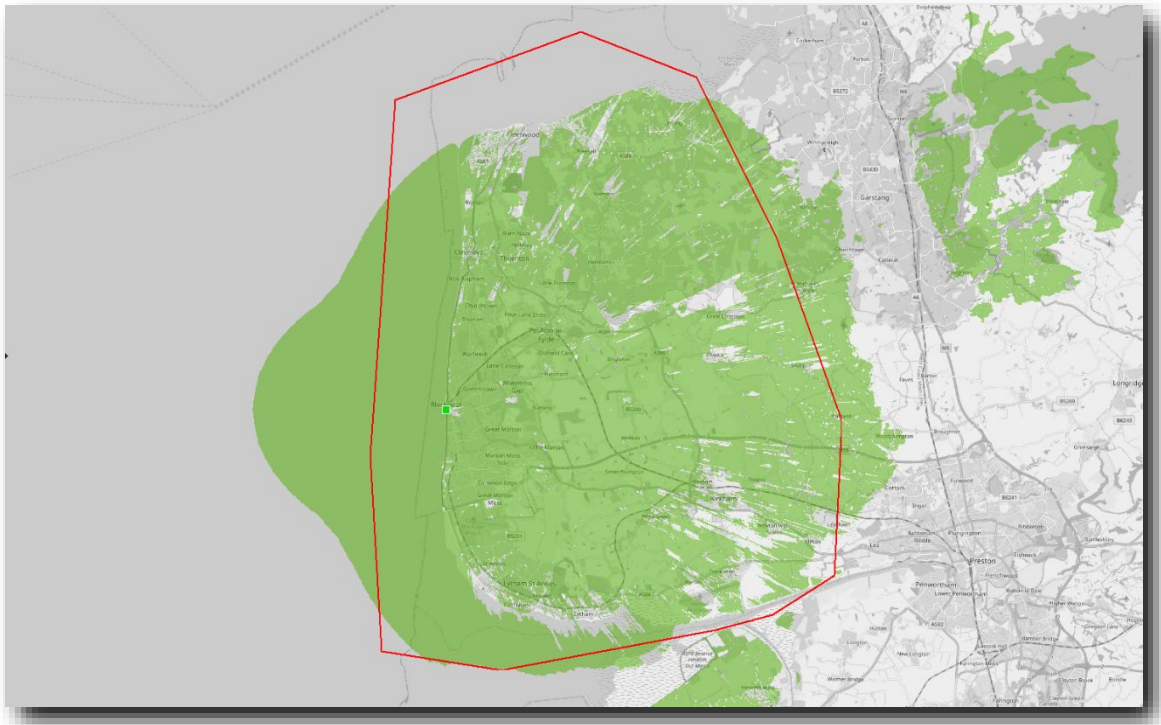
2.3 Please provide a coverage prediction map for the whole transmitter network you are proposing to build within 18 months if you are awarded a licence. The map should show the 63 dBµV/m field strength and the advertised small-scale DAB licence area contour. [Small-scale DAB licence areas in GIS format](#) are available on the Ofcom website.

A full coverage prediction map for the whole transmitter network is included in the annex. It shows the 63 dBµV/m field strength (as well as the 54 dBµV/m and 38dBµV/m contours).

The ward-level tables indicate that at 63 dBµV/m field strength;

- the number of people falling outside the polygon does not exceed 30% of the total population within the advertised licence area; and
- the proposed coverage does not overlap more than 40% of the population within the relevant local radio multiplex service’s licensed area.

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2.4 Please provide the following details of the prediction software used for your coverage assessments:

Provide the name and version of the prediction tool used.	ATDI HTZ Communications v22 6.9 x64
Detail the terrain model used by the software and its resolution.	DTM: Ordnance Survey terrain data – 50 metre resolution (DSM+DTM)
Detail the ground cover (clutter) data used by the software and its resolution.	Infoterra clutter data to 50m resolution
What propagation algorithm has been used?	<p>Model pre-set – Fresnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffraction geometry – Deygout 94-2 • Subpath attenuation – coarse integration • FZ fraction 0.8 • Earth radius (sea and land) - 8,500km
Where multiple sites are proposed, describe what methodology has been used to assess the network (SFN) gain	Power sum

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If these predictions have not used Ofcom-provided population data, state what population data has been used and its source.	Ofcom-provided population data has been used along with that from the 2011 Census which is included within ATDI's modelling software
Have your predictions been generated by a commercial organisation? If so, by whom?	Coverage predictions have been generated by Viamux using HTZ Communications software from ADTI.

3. Ability to establish the proposed service

About this section

In Section 3, we are asking questions about the applicant company, its financial and business plan, the relevant expertise and experience of those who will be involved in providing the small-scale radio multiplex service, and the timetable for coverage roll-out. The answers to these questions will enable Ofcom to assess the application under section 51(2)(c) of the 1996 Act. Additional information is requested in Part B of the application form.

In the first 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 small-scale radio multiplex 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 small-scale radio multiplex licence.

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).

The remaining questions in Section 3 relate to the applicant's financial and business plan, the expertise and experience of those involved, and the planned timetable for launching the proposed multiplex service.

Applicants should note there are confidential questions relating to extent of coverage area in Part B of the application form.

Applicant's details

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

FUN COAST DIGITAL COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

3.2 Company registration number stated on Companies House (if applicable):

13594884

3.3 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:

UNIT 2
 ENTERPRISE CENTRE
 LYTHAM ROAD
 BLACKPOOL
 FY4 1EW

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

Yes

If no, please submit the up to date document and indicate you have done so in the checklist in Section 7 of Part B of the application form.

Ownership and control of company which will hold the licence

Details of officers

3.5 Please 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 ¹	Country of residence	Other officerships held (and nature of the business concerned)	Other employment
Alistair Clarke MBE	Unit 2 Enterprise Centre Lytham Road Blackpool FY4 1EW	England	Director: Selnet (05671228) Vice-chair. Social enterprise infrastructure Director: Tick The Publicity Box CIC (06496796) Third sector marketing Director: Social Enterprise Solutions (UK) CIC (05816448) Chair. Deprived area regeneration.	Employee of Tick The Publicity Box CIC.

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

			Director: Alistair Clarke Media Ltd (05837940) Media and marketing	
Tony Carr	Unit 2 Enterprise Centre Lytham Road Blackpool FY4 1EW	England	Director: Social Enterprise Solutions (UK) CIC (05816448) Managing Director. Deprived area regeneration.	Employee of Social Enterprise Solutions (UK) CIC.
See Part B	See Part B	See Part B	See Part B	See Part B

Details of participants

3.6 Complete the table overleaf, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies or individuals which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, in the applicant (i.e. the “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.

(If parts of this question are not applicable to the applicant – for example, because the applicant does not have shareholders – please respond “N/A” in the relevant parts of the table.)

Full name of participant (existing and proposed)	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
Alistair Clarke MBE	N/A	£10,000	33.3% loan	33.3%
Tony Carr	N/A	£10,000	33.3% loan	33.3%
Name supplied in Part B	N/A	£10,000	33.3% loan	33.3%
Comments				

Details of relationships of control

3.7 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list any bodies corporate which are controlled by the applicant, any director of the applicant, any person/body corporate with control over the applicant, or any body corporate controlled by a person/body

corporate controlling the applicant. Please include bodies corporate under joint control – i.e. which are controlled acting together in concert with third parties (e.g. because of a shareholder’s agreement):

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

Full name of body corporate	Address	Person/body controlling the entity (i.e. the applicant itself or its associate)
N/A		

Details of persons who control the applicant

3.8 Complete the table overleaf, expanding it if necessary, to list all persons/bodies corporate who control the applicant, or control any person/body corporate with control over the applicant. Please include persons or bodies that control the applicant (or body corporate with control over the applicant) jointly i.e. acting together in concert with third parties (e.g. because of a shareholder’s agreement). Please note that some of this information may repeat information provided above on shareholders and other participants in the applicant:

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

Full name of person/body corporate	Address	Person/body controlled by the entity (i.e. the applicant itself or its associate)
N/A		

3.9 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list other bodies in which any individual listed in response to question 3.8 is a director or designated member:

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

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Full name of individual	Name of body in which individual is a director or designated member
N/A	

3.10 Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies corporate which are controlled (including jointly controlled) by any body corporate listed in response to question 3.8:

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

Full name of body corporate listed in 3.8	Body corporate controlled
N/A	

3.11 In relation to each body corporate identified in response to question 3.8, complete the table overleaf, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, 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 3.8. 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 3.8				
Full name of participant	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
Alistair Clarke MBE	N/A	£10,000	33.3% loan	33.3%
Tony Carr	N/A	£10,000	33.3% loan	33.3%
Name supplied in Part B	N/A	£10,000	33.3% loan	33.3%
Comments				

Involvement of the applicant in specified activities

3.12 Please state below whether the applicant, or any individual or body corporate identified in questions 3.5 to 3.11 is, or is involved in, any of the below, and the extent of that interest.

Activity/involvement	Yes or No	Please state who is involved; the name of the body/individual/agency they are involved with; and the extent of their involvement
A local authority	NO	
A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a political nature, or which is affiliated to such a body	NO	
A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a religious nature; ²	NO	
An individual who is an officer of a body falling within (b) or (c);	NO	
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	
An advertising agency or an associate of an advertising agency	NO	

Details of applications, licences and sanctions

3.13 Please answer 'yes' or 'no' to the following questions about the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

² Please refer to Sections 3 to 5 of Ofcom's religious guidance note at: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0028/88219/Guidance-for-religious-bodies.pdf for details on how we determine the eligibility of religious bodies to hold certain broadcasting licences.

(a) Is the applicant a current licensee of Ofcom?

No

(b) Has the applicant ever held an Ofcom broadcasting licence before?

No

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

Yes

(d) Does the applicant control an existing Ofcom licensee?

No

(e) Is the applicant 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”)?

No

(f) 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)?

No

(g) 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)?

No

(h) 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?

No

(i) 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?

No

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3.14 If the response to any of the questions (a) to (i) in 3.14 above is ‘yes’, please provide the details, expanding the table where necessary:

	Licence number(s) (if known)	Details
(a)	Radio Wave (Blackpool)	Tony Carr, director, 1992-1997 Alistair Clarke MBE – News Editor (employee) 1992-1997
(b)	Wish FM (Wigan and St Helens)	Alistair Clarke MBE – Head of News and Sport (employee) 1997-2004
(c)	Wire FM (Warrington and Runcorn)	Alistair Clarke MBE – Head of News and Sport (employee) 1998-2004

3.15 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 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”.

All the directors of Fun Coast Digital CIC have an exemplary record of compliance in terms of adhering to broadcast regulatory matters over a 30 year period.

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

No

If yes, please provide the following details:

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

Financial and business plan

- 3.17 Please provide a high-level estimate of the costs you believe will be required to establish the multiplex service.

Our mission is to provide a multiplex service that can accommodate as many locally-generated radio services to serve the different groups and interests in the local community on the Fylde Coast. To achieve this, our aim is to make the cost of broadcasting on the multiplex as affordable as possible.

We have sourced a quote for the installation and fit out of the necessary technical equipment from Viamux and the costs associated with operating it. All the annual costs of operating the business are being kept at a minimum.

Letters from the directors are included in Part B to the effect that they will loan the social enterprise the necessary monies to fund the start-up of the multiplex and that they have sufficient resources for this from their private finances. The attached three-year cashflow forecast details how, and over what time period, that loan will be repaid to the directors.

We have been purposefully cautious in forecasting revenue generated in the cashflow document and the number of stations we expect on air. Given the generosity of the owners of the transmission site, which they were happy to offer as we are a not-for-profit company, it is incumbent on us to pass on that saving on to community groups wishing to broadcast on the multiplex. See letter from the owners of the transmission site in Part B.

We also want to ensure that the community groups have the best possible chance of achieving sustainability for their radio service. We have scoped out in broad terms with some former radio sales staff in Blackpool how small amounts of advertising revenue could be sourced to cover the multiplex costs for community groups so, in effect, it would be cost neutral for them. See letter to this effect in Part B.

We have held initial discussions with colleagues in the radio industry regionally who are considering setting up a sales house that would generate an income for stations on small scale DAB multiplexes that carry their advertisements, so that is another potential source of income for our clients. Further, we have engaged with an experienced radio broadcast engineer who lives in the transmission area, and he has agreed that he will provide advice to community groups so they better understand what equipment is required and costs.

We have set out in the 3-year cashflow document a realistic and achievable model for the multiplex operation to be sustainable and for the operators of the radio stations on it to, also, be sustainable. Unlike a private company, if an operating surplus is generated it will be reinvested back into the social enterprise as constituted in the CIC articles of association, and not distributed to shareholders.

3.18 Please indicate how the costs outlined in 3.17 (above) will be met, under the following headings:

- a) Share capital
- b) Loan stock
- c) Leasing/HP facilities (capital value)
- d) Bank overdraft
- e) Grants and donations
- f) Other (please specify) Director loans

The three directors propose to loan the company £10,000 each to cover start-up costs. These loans may vary if costs are over/under current estimates.

These loans are expected to be repaid within 5 years of trading or when the company has sufficient funds to repay.

3.19 Expanding the table if necessary, please list the providers of the funding which will be used to establish the service, and the amount of funding that each will provide. For incorporated investing shareholders, please provide a copy of the most recent statutory accounts if they are not currently available on Companies House.

Name of shareholder or investor	Percentage of shares held (if applicable)	Amount of funding provided (£)
Alistair Clarke MBE	Company limited by guarantee	£10,000
Tony Carr	Company limited by guarantee	£10,000
Name supplied in Part B	Company limited by guarantee	£10,000

3.20 All of the funding identified above should be confirmed. If any funding has not been confirmed, or if there are any pre-conditions before the funding is released which have not yet been met, provide an explanation of what needs to be done, the dates by which it needs to be carried out, and any steps the applicant needs to take to ensure the funding is confirmed and/or released.

All funding is secured and an agreement on finance signed by the directors is in the confidential annex.

Relevant expertise and experience

- 3.21 Please provide details of who will be responsible for the day-to-day general management of the multiplex service (for example, dealing with programme service providers and contractual matters). Please also briefly state their previous relevant experience. (Note that any individuals or contractors who cannot be identified at this stage can instead be included in the confidential section (Part B) of the application form.)

The main contact at Fun Coast Digital CIC for Ofcom and service providers is Alistair Clarke MBE.

Alistair Clarke MBE is a trained journalist and pioneer in the radio industry.

Radio highlights include:

- Employed by Radio Wave in Blackpool – the country’s first small-scale radio licence - 6 months before going on air in 1992 to originate and implement the necessary systems to get a radio newsroom from concept to on-air. Alistair remained as news editor for 5 years, setting a blueprint for how small-scale radio stations generate a local news service to engage a local community;
- Employed by Wish FM in Wigan and St Helens 3 months before going on air in 1997 to establish a local news service in a TSA twice the size of Radio Wave and which was heavily focused on rugby league and football. For eight years, Alistair headed a team of journalists generating local news and personally read 20 news bulletins a day;
- Seconded by the parent group IRG to establish a news and sport operation after the successful bid for Wire FM in Warrington and Runcorn in 1998. Alistair oversaw the news operations at Wish FM and Wire FM for 7 years. Regularly dealing directly with the radio group’s owner, Kelvin Mackenzie, on individual stories, at management level and on group policy.

For two years, Alistair volunteered – from launch in 2016 – on That’s Manchester and arranged and hosted a weekly topical debate on the Freeview television channel.

All news broadcasts in Alistair’s 18-year broadcast career were fully compliant with radio broadcasting rules.

Alistair has extensive broadcast experience to be able to advise and train community groups on OFCOM policies to ensure compliance. Alistair holds a BA (Hons) from the University of Westminster in Media, specialising in radio journalism.

After leaving radio, Alistair used his skills in media and marketing to establish a social enterprise to support other voluntary sector organisations. He then trained as a specialist business advisor in social enterprise in 2009.

He is currently the chair of Social Enterprise Solutions CIC in Blackpool which, using a three-year grant from the National Lottery, provides vital support for Blackpool residents in chaotic circumstances in partnership with their GP. He is vice chair of

Social Enterprise Lancashire, Selnet, and hosts its annual flagship awards ceremony for 300 guests.

Alistair is a director of a private company which provides a variety of media services including voice and presentation training news reporters for ITV News when called on.

Alistair was awarded the MBE for services to social enterprise in Blackpool in the New Year's Honours List, 2020.

Tony Carr, born and raised in Blackpool, has been one of the leading lights in the local community of the Fylde Coast for more than 50 years. If successful in the bid to operate the multiplex, Tony will keep a keen eye on the finances.

As a prominent retailer in Blackpool town centre for more than 30 years through the 1970s, 80s and 90s, Tony managed the family business selling high-end ladies fashion and has an enviable track record in marketing and sales. This was an era when Blackpool was synonymous with ballroom dancing with 'Come Dancing' from Blackpool Tower ballroom on television and there was much demand for glamorous dresses.

One of his biggest achievements was establishing and chairing the Town Centre Forum to bring all the shop owners together, which radically improved Blackpool's retail space. This was a forerunner to today's town centre Business Improvement District.

After bowing out at the top on the shop floor, Tony turned his focus to the community initially volunteering at the Citizen's Advice centre in St Annes where he supported people with their social issues such as debt, housing etc.

In the mid 2000s, Tony helped to establish a new social enterprise infrastructure body to encourage more community organisations to start-up and flourish and Tony continues to be the managing director of Social Enterprise Solutions CIC to this day.


Recognition includes:

- Fellow of The Royal Academy of Arts and Commerce (FRSA)
- Fellow of Chartered Management Institute (FCMI)
- CMI Level 5 Award in Management Coaching

Tony was also one of the driving forces in getting Radio Wave onto the air as the UK's first small-scale radio licences in the early 1990s as one of the original financial backers of the bid to the radio authorities and subsequently of the station that formed, Radio Wave (Blackpool) Ltd. He played a key role in raising awareness of the new radio station among the traders in the town centre to ensure that Radio Wave was heard in every shop and café to maximise listenership.

Tony lives with his family in one of the villages in the area served by the multiplex in Wyre Borough.

3.22 Please provide details of who will be carrying out the installation and on-going maintenance of your multiplexing / transmitter equipment (or the name of your proposed transmission and multiplex provider if you intend to use a third-party organisation for these services). Please also briefly state their previous relevant experience. (Note that any individuals or contractors who cannot be identified at this stage can instead be included in the confidential section (Part B) of the application form.)

Function	Responsible party	Previous experience
Installation of transmission equipment	Viamux	Viamux is a leading supplier of small-scale DAB solutions. It was established in 2017 by the Niocast Digital team - who have been operating the successful Trial Manchester small-scale multiplex for the past six years. Viamux have installed systems in the UK & Republic of Ireland. More info: www.viamux.com 
Ongoing maintenance of the transmission equipment	Viamux	
Installation of the Multiplexing equipment	Viamux	
Day-to-day technical management and maintenance of the multiplexing equipment (if different from response to question 3.28 above)	Viamux	

Timetable for coverage roll-out

3.23 Please tell us how soon after licence award you expect your multiplex service to become operational and achieve the coverage you are proposing:

We intend to launch the multiplex in 6 months from award of licence.

Upon award we will immediately advance negotiations regarding the proposed transmission site(s). Following the procedure set out in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance, we will also liaise with other radio multiplex licensees on any impact our proposed transmitters might have. Once completed, we will seek agreement from Ofcom for the proposed technical plan – mindful that the coverage proposed in our application is an award criterion and that any change will need to deliver broadly equivalent coverage.

We will send final site details to Ofcom for clearance and evidence of liaison and agreement with those other radio multiplex licensees. Given the time taken to co-ordinate services we recognise the importance getting the final transmitter plans to Ofcom as quickly as possible.

Our timeline then focuses on the following key stages:

- Building and installing the DAB multiplex and transmission chain;
- Finalising carriage agreements with the service providers;
- Commissioning and testing the transmitter equipment for compliance with Ofcom's Digital Radio Technical Code; and
- Providing Ofcom with evidence of compliance with the licence and the Digital Radio Technical Code

Viamux has confirmed the availability of all equipment and services to meet our timescales.

3.24 In addition, please provide, as an annex to be submitted with this application, an outline project plan with timeline (e.g. a Gantt chart or similar) showing the high level activities and tasks leading up to the launch of your multiplex service.

The GANTT chart (included in the annex) sets out the precise, key stages in the implementation of the multiplex together with the timeline.

4. Involvement of C-DSP providers; demand or support from programme providers

About this section

Section 51(2)(ca) of the 1996 Act requires Ofcom to take into account the desirability of awarding a small-scale radio multiplex licence to a body corporate that is providing – or proposing to provide – a C-DSP service in the locality being advertised (or involving such a person as a participant in the licence-holding company).

Section 51(2)(f) of the 1996 Act requires Ofcom to take into account evidence that the applicant has support from providers interested in having their existing or planned programme services carried on the proposed multiplex.

Note that we do not require applicants to provide us with a full-line up of services they intend to provide, or details about the content of those services.

Involvement of C-DSP providers

4.1 Is the applicant body proposing to provide its own C-DSP service on the multiplex?

NO

4.2 If the answer to the above question is 'yes', please provide a name and brief details of this proposed service. If the service is already licensed by Ofcom, the licence number should be provided:

N/A

4.3 If the answer to the above question is 'no', please provide details of any participant in the applicant body that is proposing to provide a C-DSP service on the multiplex. In this

context, a “participant” refers to a person who holds or is beneficially entitled to shares in the applicant or possesses voting power in the applicant. If the service is already licensed by Ofcom, the licence number should be provided. Please refer to the nature of the participation (e.g. shareholding or agreement in relation to voting power):

N/A

Demand or support from programme providers

4.4 Please provide in the table below (expanding the table if necessary) the names of providers (or prospective providers) of community or local digital sound programme services who have expressed their demand or support for the provision of the proposed multiplex service in the area to be served by the multiplex service. For reasons of transparency, the response to this question must be answered below and should not be provided as a separate annex. The evidence of the demand or support, such as signed heads of terms or emails, should be provided as a confidential annex, and relate only to the specific multiplex being applied for.

Name of service provider and station name (if known)	Proposed C-DSP or DSP	Nature of evidence of support provided
Sands Radio Existing online radio station	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
Fylde Coast Radio Existing online radio station	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
N-Vision (Blind Society covering Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde)	C-DSP	Letter

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Volunteer Centre Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde	C-DSP	Letter
Blackpool Council Tourism	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
Blackpool Council Special Events (Blackpool Illuminations, Blackpool Air Show, World Fireworks Display)	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
Blackpool Council 'My Blackpool' – A station providing information, particularly health advice, for residents.	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
Fit The Bill Ltd, country music station	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
Blackpool Music Service Schools, young people	To Be Decided by the service provider	Letter
A number of other letters have been included to show support and demand from community groups, the tourism sector, MPs, radio professionals and others.		

5. Fair and effective competition

About this section

Section 51(2)(g) of the 1996 Act requires Ofcom to assess whether, in contracting or offering to contract with programme service providers, the applicant has acted in a manner calculated to ensure fair and effective competition in the provision of community and local digital sound programme services.

In assessing applications, we need to have confidence that the prospective small-scale radio multiplex licensee has approached a wide range of potential service providers. Negotiations that have taken place between the applicant and potential service providers need to have been demonstrably fair, and the terms of any contract for service provision must be fair and non-discriminatory.

Applicants should note there is one further question relating to fair and effective competition in Part B of the application form.

- 5.1 Please detail the measures that have already been taken, and will be taken before and during the licence period, to demonstrate that, in contracting or offering to contract with programme services providers, the applicant has acted in a manner calculated to ensure fair and effective competition in the provision of such services:

In preparing this application, we have contacted organisations based on the Fylde Coast that we believe could offer a real alternative to existing radio services so as to broaden listener choice.

This includes existing online radio stations that are already talking about local issues and are 'oven ready' for moving onto the DAB multiplex and new service providers that could establish stations with information and entertainment for young people, sports fans and minority groups etc or FM stations as the move to digital broadcasting continues.

When we explain to people our passion for providing local services for residents and not just for tourists, the extensive background in broadcasting and community engagement of the directors and our ethos as a company set up without shares so a takeover by a larger group isn't possible, then everybody we have spoken to has offered to support the application. This is more than a bid to operate a multiplex. This is a determination by the local community, both grass roots and public sector level, to bring about a revolution in local broadcasting. As the multiplex is run for community benefit, not to generate a return for shareholders, the directors will not be under pressure to just fill up the space on the multiplex. If successful in the bid, we will set up a steering group of service providers and wider partners to inform and influence decisions taken by the directors. The directors pledge to work equitably with service providers in allocating space on the multiplex and details of rates will be published openly. Should all the space be allocated, we will manage a fair process for a reserve list. If the directors feel conflicted in any way, we can call on other community bodies, like the Council for Voluntary Service, to consult wider with the community.

6. Declaration

About this section

This form must be submitted by the body corporate which will hold the licence. The declaration must be certified by a company director or the company secretary, and covers all information provided by in the applicant in both Part A and Part B of the application form. The declaration must also be dated.

- a) I hereby apply to Ofcom for the grant of a licence for the small-scale radio multiplex licence described above and declare that the information given in this application form is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.
- b) I further declare and warrant:
 - i) that the applicant is not a disqualified person within the meaning of that expression as defined in Part 2 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;
 - ii) that having made all reasonable enquiries neither the applicant nor any person controlling the applicant, as 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;
 - iii) 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
 - iv) that no director or person concerned directly or indirectly in the management of the Licensee is the subject to a disqualification order as defined by section 145 (1) of the Broadcasting Act 1996.
- c) 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 substantial shareholders involved 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 person authorised to make the application of behalf of the applicant:

ALISTAIR CLARKE MBE

Date of application:

31 AUGUST 2021

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

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "Alistair Clarke".

Company director

You now need to complete the **confidential section (Part B)** of the application form.