

Advertisement of licences for small-scale radio multiplex services

Round Seven

Published: 28 January 2025

Closing date for applications: 29 April 2025



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1. Overview

1.1 In this document, Ofcom proposes to grant licences to provide small-scale radio multiplex services, and is inviting applications for licences for the following areas:

- Arbroath, Carnoustie & Montrose
- Bridgwater
- Bromsgrove, Kidderminster & Redditch
- Cirencester
- Ely & March
- Enniskillen
- Exmouth & Dawlish
- Gloucester
- Lancaster
- Llanelli
- Loughborough & Coalville
- Malton
- Market Harborough
- Midlothian
- Moray Coast South
- Newark-on-Trent
- North Berkshire & South Oxfordshire
- North Norfolk
- North Somerset
- Oban
- Ringwood, Verwood & Fordingbridge
- Rugby & Daventry
- Stockton-on-Tees
- Wellingborough
- West Oxfordshire (previously referred to as Witney)
- West Somerset & Lynton
- Western Isles
- Weston-super-Mare
- Worcester

1.2 The licence area previously known as Witney has been re-named as West Oxfordshire because we have extended it to include Chipping Norton (an area not previously allocated to any small-scale multiplex licence area), following feedback from prospective applicants.

1.3 In addition, we are also inviting applications in this round for licences to serve the following areas which are being re-advertised:

- Ards Peninsula
- Banbury & Bicester
- Taunton
- Wakefield & Castleford (previously advertised as Wakefield, Castleford & Dewsbury)

- 1.4 Following feedback from prospective applicants, the licence areas that were previously advertised for Banbury & Bicester and Wakefield, Castleford & Dewsbury have been revised. The re-advertised Banbury & Bicester licence area now incorporates some areas of western Northamptonshire, notably Towcester, that were not previously allocated to any small-scale multiplex licence area. The re-advertised Wakefield & Castleford licence area no longer includes Dewsbury.
- 1.5 A radio multiplex service is the means by which DAB digital radio stations are broadcast and can provide around 10 stereo radio stations (and around 20 stereo services if DAB+ is utilised).
- 1.6 The advertisement of these licences constitutes Round Seven of Ofcom's programme of small-scale DAB licensing, as set out in our [statement on small-scale DAB licensing](#) published in April 2020. Note that we intend to award no more than one small-scale radio multiplex licence for each area that we advertise (i.e. we have no plans to award additional small-scale radio multiplex licences for a given area once a small-scale radio multiplex service has been licensed by us to serve that area).
- 1.7 Small-scale radio multiplex licences are awarded by Ofcom in a competitive process. This means that applications are judged against specified criteria, and Ofcom awards each licence to the applicant which it considers best meets the criteria.
- 1.8 The closing-date for applications for the small-scale radio multiplex licences listed above is **5pm on Tuesday 29 April 2025**. The non-refundable application fee is £500.
- 1.9 Ofcom is also now inviting applications from potential programme service providers who would like to broadcast a Community Digital Sound Programme (C-DSP) service on a small-scale radio multiplex service for which a licence is being advertised in this document.

2. The licences being advertised

2.1 This section provides, for each small-scale radio multiplex licence we are advertising in Round Seven, a map specifying the geographical area or locality which the licence is intended to cover, and relevant data for each licence area, including the adult population coverage.

2.2 The table below explains the data we provide in more detail:

Data	Description
Licence area population	The total adult (aged 15+) population within the area that the advertised multiplex licence is intended to cover (i.e. the population enclosed by the red line on the map). This, and all other population data in these tables, is derived from 2011 Census data.
Size of licence area	The geographical size, in square kilometres, of the area that the advertised multiplex licence is intended to cover (i.e. the area enclosed within the red line on the map). The figure includes areas of sea where applicable.
Reserved C-DSP capacity	<p>The small-scale DAB legislation requires Ofcom to ensure that small-scale radio multiplex licensees reserve broadcast capacity for a minimum of three Community Digital Sound Programme ('C-DSP') services. It also requires us to specify this reservation at the time of advertising a small-scale radio multiplex licence. For each licence we are advertising, Ofcom has determined the number of C-DSP services for which capacity must be reserved. These decisions were taken based on the factors set out in paragraph 6.13 of our licensing small-scale DAB statement.</p> <p>The licensee must ensure that at least 36 capacity units¹ are reserved for each C-DSP service. For example, a capacity reservation for three services means that 108 capacity units (i.e. 3 x 36 capacity units) must be reserved exclusively for use by C-DSP services. This capacity cannot be used by the multiplex licensee for any purpose other than for the carriage of radio services holding a C-DSP licence.</p>
Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population)	This is the name of an existing local radio multiplex service which overlaps with the area to be covered by the small-scale radio multiplex service for which the licence is being advertised. The total adult (aged 15+) population within the existing local radio multiplex service's licensed area (which may be larger than the area it serves from its current transmitter network) is noted in brackets. Where more than one existing local radio multiplex service overlaps with the small-scale radio multiplex licence area being advertised, additional rows labelled 'Local DAB service 2 [...]' and 'Local DAB service 3 [...]' are included as appropriate.

¹ 36 capacity units is equivalent to a DAB+ bitrate of 48 kbit/s at protection level EEP3A.

Data	Description
Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage)	<p>The adult (aged 15+) population falling within the advertised small-scale radio multiplex licence area which also falls within the licensed area of the overlapping local radio multiplex service noted above. This overlapping population is provided as an absolute figure, and also as a percentage of the local radio multiplex service’s total licensed area population in brackets.</p> <p>The extent of overlaps between small-scale and local radio multiplex service licensed areas is relevant, as there is a legal requirement to limit such overlaps to no more than 40% of the population in the licensed area of the existing local radio multiplex service.</p>
Proposed frequency block	<p>The nominal transmission frequency which has been allocated to the advertised small-scale radio multiplex licence area, and on which we intend for the service to be provided. Applicants should note that the frequency given here is provisional, reflecting Ofcom’s intention at time of advertisement. It may change prior to licence award for spectrum management reasons, but applicants must base their applications on the specified frequency.</p>
Co-block small-scale DAB licence areas and/or local multiplexes	<p>Lists any nearby small-scale radio multiplex services and/or any existing (or proposed) local radio multiplex services which share or may share the nominal transmission frequency block above.</p> <p>A spreadsheet containing links to licence area data and population data for these potential co-block areas is available on the Ofcom website: Supporting technical data and links for Round Seven locations. This data is in MapInfo Interchange Format and can be imported into geographic information system (GIS) software packages. The spreadsheet also contains links to standalone maps for all small-scale and local radio multiplex licensed areas.</p> <p>The information on co-block DAB services is relevant given that there are limits on the amount of signal strength that a small-scale radio multiplex service can place into the licensed area of another radio multiplex service which uses the same frequency block. These signal strength limits are 38 dBµV/m at 10m height in the case of other small-scale radio multiplex licensed areas, and 29 dBµV/m at 10m height where local radio multiplex services use co-block frequencies. In the tables below for each map, local radio multiplex services are identified by the letters ‘LRMS’ following the area name. Other area names denote other actual or planned small-scale multiplex areas.</p>
Additional information	<p>Further information or constraints that Ofcom believes the applicant for the specific licence area should be aware of. This may include such things as advice on areas of higher-than-expected interference, specific concerns about outgoing interference, and use of certain transmitter sites.</p>

Data	Description
International issues	<p>Information on what limits apply to the signal levels that the small-scale multiplex service can place into neighbouring countries. The limits on the UK's ability to put signals into other countries vary by frequency block and are also expressed as a total of all of the services operating on those blocks.</p> <p>The information set out in the advertisement represents Ofcom's estimate of the limits that will need to apply to the technical plans for each advertised area to enable the UK to comply with the agreements we have with neighbouring countries. The estimates are based on our assumptions about the number of areas that will use a particular frequency block (including some that are yet to be advertised), and the technical plans that applicants will submit. The actual limits that licensees will need to comply with may be different, and in some cases could be slightly less restrictive, once we know where licences are awarded, and the transmitter plans those successful applicants have proposed to implement.</p>
<Link to licence area data>	A link to data files which describe the geographic licence area. This data is in MapInfo Interchange Format and can be imported into a geographic information system (GIS) software package.
<Link> to population data>	A link to data files containing the population distribution within the licence area. This data is in MapInfo Interchange Format and can be imported into a geographic information system (GIS) software package.

- 2.3 Each small-scale radio multiplex licence will be granted for a period of seven years from the commencement of broadcasting, with a further five-year renewal period available. Services must be on air within 18 months of the licence being awarded. This is a legal requirement of the small-scale DAB legislation and successful applicants should expect Ofcom to apply it strictly.
- 2.4 At the same time as Ofcom is advertising the Round Seven small-scale radio multiplex licences, we are also inviting applications from potential programme service providers who would like to broadcast a Community Digital Sound Programme ('C-DSP') service on any of the small-scale radio multiplex services for which a licence is being advertised in this document. There is no deadline by which an application for a C-DSP licence must be submitted to Ofcom. This means that the window for making an application for a C-DSP licence for a service to be provided on any of the small-scale radio multiplex services for which a licence is being advertised in Round Seven is now 'open' for the foreseeable future. Prospective C-DSP licence applicants should also note that the C-DSP licence application process does not require them to align themselves with one or more applicants for the licence for the small-scale DAB radio multiplex service that they wish to broadcast on, and they can, if they so wish, wait until after the small-scale radio multiplex licence has been awarded before submitting a C-DSP licence application. However, we would advise multiplex applicants and potential C-DSP providers to liaise with each other at an early stage as a broadcaster will need a carriage agreement as well as an Ofcom licence.

- 2.5 There is no restriction on an applicant for a small-scale radio multiplex licence also applying for a C-DSP licence to broadcast on that small-scale radio multiplex service (i.e. a small-scale radio multiplex licensee can also broadcast a C-DSP service on its own multiplex). Indeed, one of the matters the legislation requires Ofcom to consider in awarding a small-scale multiplex licence is the desirability of awarding to an applicant who is, or has as a participant, someone proposing to provide a C-DSP service in that locality.
- 2.6 The application forms ([Part A](#) and [Part B](#)) and accompanying [guidance notes](#) for C-DSP applicants and licensees are available on Ofcom's website.
- 2.7 Ofcom reserves the right to alter or correct any part of this Notice at any stage before the closing date for applications. Any additional documents referred to in this Notice may also be amended from time to time. Any such alterations, corrections or supplementary information will be made available on our website.
- 2.8 The information given in this Notice is not an exhaustive account of the statutory and licensing requirements and should not be regarded as a complete and authoritative statement of the law. Nor does any information we issue, whether in this Notice or elsewhere, imply any judgement by us as to commercial prospects for the applications, or that licensed services will be profitable.
- 2.9 Applicants must make their own independent assessment after taking their own professional advice and making such further investigations as they deem necessary on all relevant matters.
- 2.10 We make no representation or warranty, expressly or implied, with respect to information contained in this Notice (together with other documents referred to in this Notice as well as any other information we publish related to matters relevant to this Notice, including such information that we may publish in relation to applications received) or with respect to any written or oral information made or to be made available to any potential applicant or its professional advisors. Any liability therefore is expressly disclaimed, and we do not therefore accept liability for any losses, expenses or damage otherwise suffered or incurred as a result of preparing any applications based on or pursuant to this Notice or otherwise relying on information set out herein, whether or not applications are submitted, and whether or not they are successful.

Arbroath, Carnoustie and Montrose



Population within the advertised area: 57,491

Size of advertised area (km²): 730 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Aberdeen (383,993)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 391 (0.10%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Tayside (479,208)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 57,100 (11.92%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Dunfermline & Kinross.

Additional information:

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance upon elevated parts of the Ochil Hills, Cleish Hills and Bishop Hill within the Dunfermline & Kinross small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Ards Peninsula



Population within the advertised area: 263,368

Size of advertised area (km²): 1,746 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: SIX services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Northern Ireland (1,448,895)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 263,368 (18.1%)

Proposed frequency block: 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB licence areas to be protected: Ballymena, Inverclyde, Blackpool, Llandudno & Betws-y-Coed, and Omagh.

Additional information: Within this advertised area, areas around Carryduff, west of Saintfield and around Ballynahinch as well as east of Holywood may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

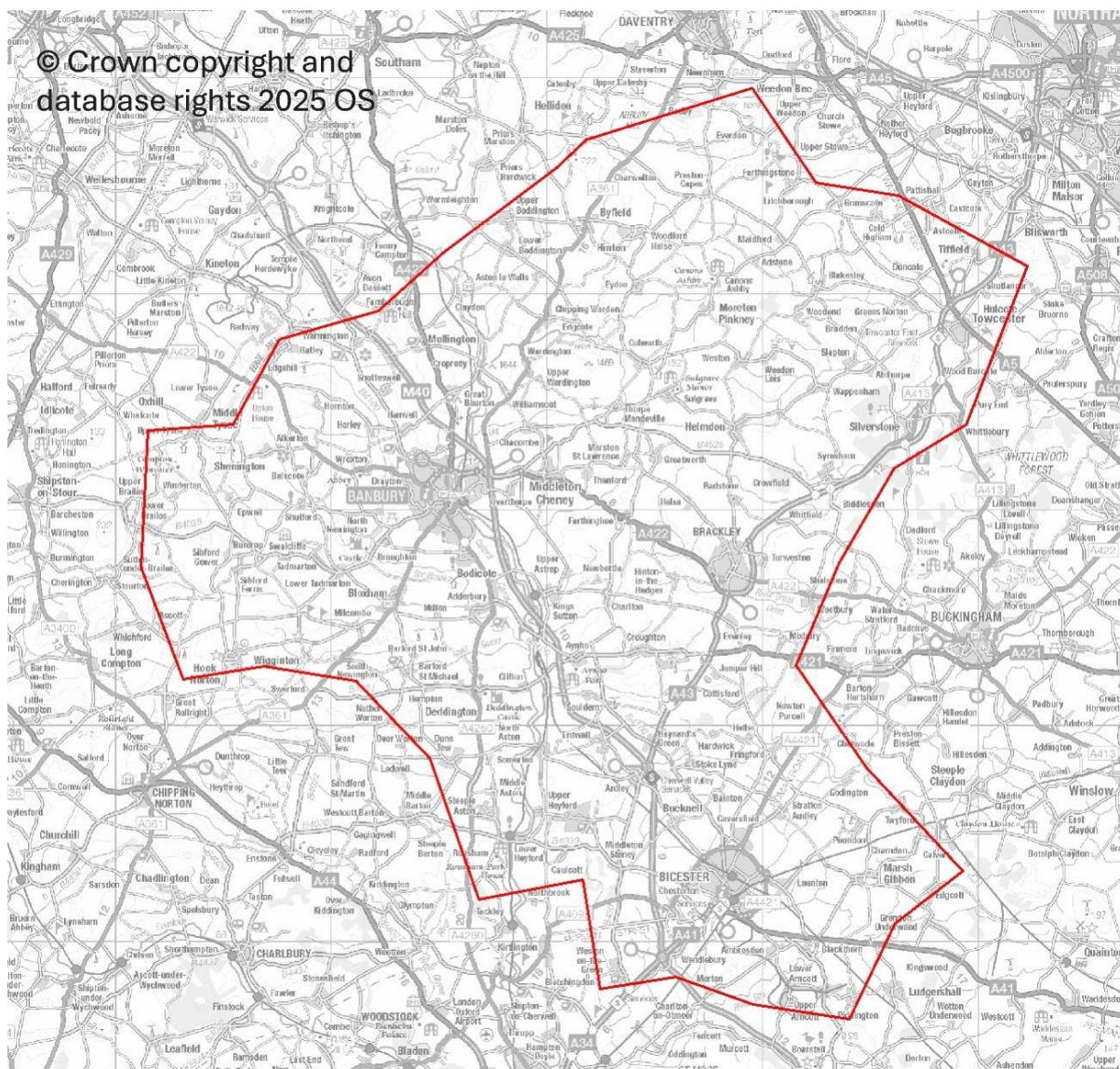
As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the western parts of the Ballymena small-scale DAB area, particularly on the high ground of Agnes's Mountain and Tardree Forest. While some interference into these listed areas may be unavoidable, Ofcom expects applicants to keep it to a minimum.

Where it will not detrimentally affect wanted coverage, Ofcom will also expect applicants to minimise interference toward south-west Scotland and the Isle of Man by implementing directional antennas at coastal transmitter sites.

Interference into the Republic of Ireland should be kept to a minimum. We request that networks are designed to minimise levels of field strength towards the land and sea borders of the Republic of Ireland by careful site selection, limitation of maximum transmitter powers and the use of directional transmitting antennas as appropriate. It should be noted that, if future developments within the Republic of Ireland result in their need to use Band III spectrum, Ireland has the rights to implement networks in line with existing international agreements. In the event this happens, Ofcom will work with the SSDAB licence holder(s) to resolve any potential interference issues, and this could potentially require a change of transmission frequency or other measures.

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Banbury & Bicester



Population within the advertised area: 142,279

Size of advertised area (km²): 1,003 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Coventry (749,125)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 1,766 (0.24%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Herts, Beds & Bucks (2,008,567)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 2,023 (0.1%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Northamptonshire (531,211)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 23,671 (4.46%)

Local DAB service 4 (and licence area population): Oxfordshire (531,992)

Local DAB service 4 population overlap (and percentage): 114,819 (21.58%)

Proposed frequency block: 9C

The co-block small-scale DAB licence areas to be protected: Rutland & Stamford, Bedford, South Hertfordshire, Reading, Cheltenham & Tewkesbury, and South Birmingham.

Additional information:

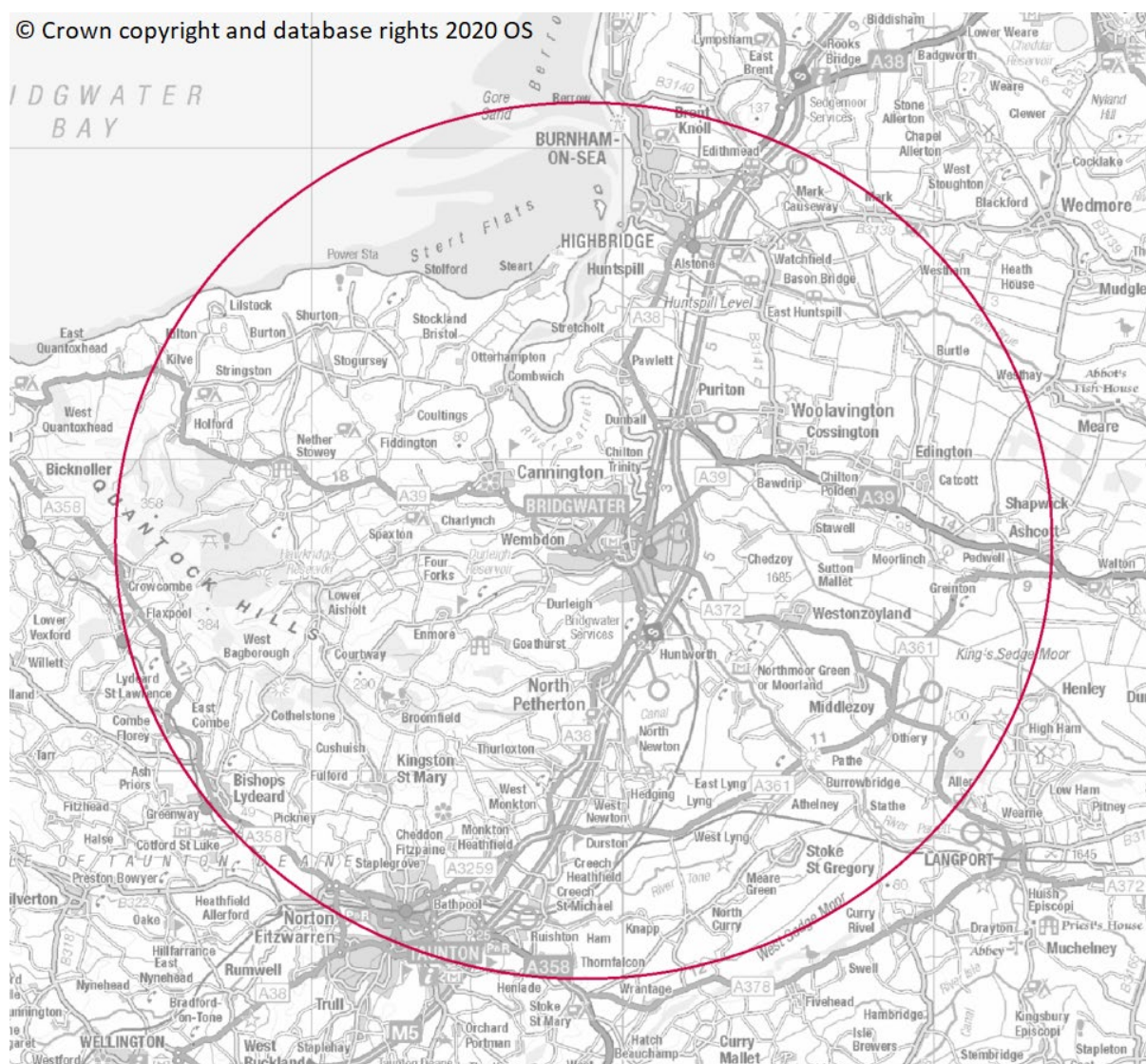
Within this advertised area, the part of the Cotswolds along a ridge of high ground from The Brailles to Ratley, an area north of Brackley and along the B4525 from Shortgrove Wood to Thenford Hill, high ground around Byfield as well as an area north of Brackley to the M40/A43 junction may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance around Naseby within the Market Harborough small-scale DAB area, around Zouches Farm and high ground from Dunstable southwest to Whipsnade in the Luton small-scale DAB area, the Chiltern Ridge in the South Buckinghamshire small-scale DAB area, and within the South Birmingham small-scale DAB area straddling the M42 from junctions 2 to 4 including the northern end of the M40 and Hopwood. While some interference into these listed areas may be unavoidable, Ofcom expects applicants to keep it to a minimum.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region

Bridgwater

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Adult population within the advertised area: 121,000

Size of advertised area (km²): 647 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FIVE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Somerset (522,893)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 121,000 (23.14%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB licence areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas; East Bristol, Mangotsfield & Keynsham, Shaftesbury & Blandford Forum, or Barnstaple & Bideford.

Additional information:

Within this advertised area, some isolated areas of the Quantock Hills may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

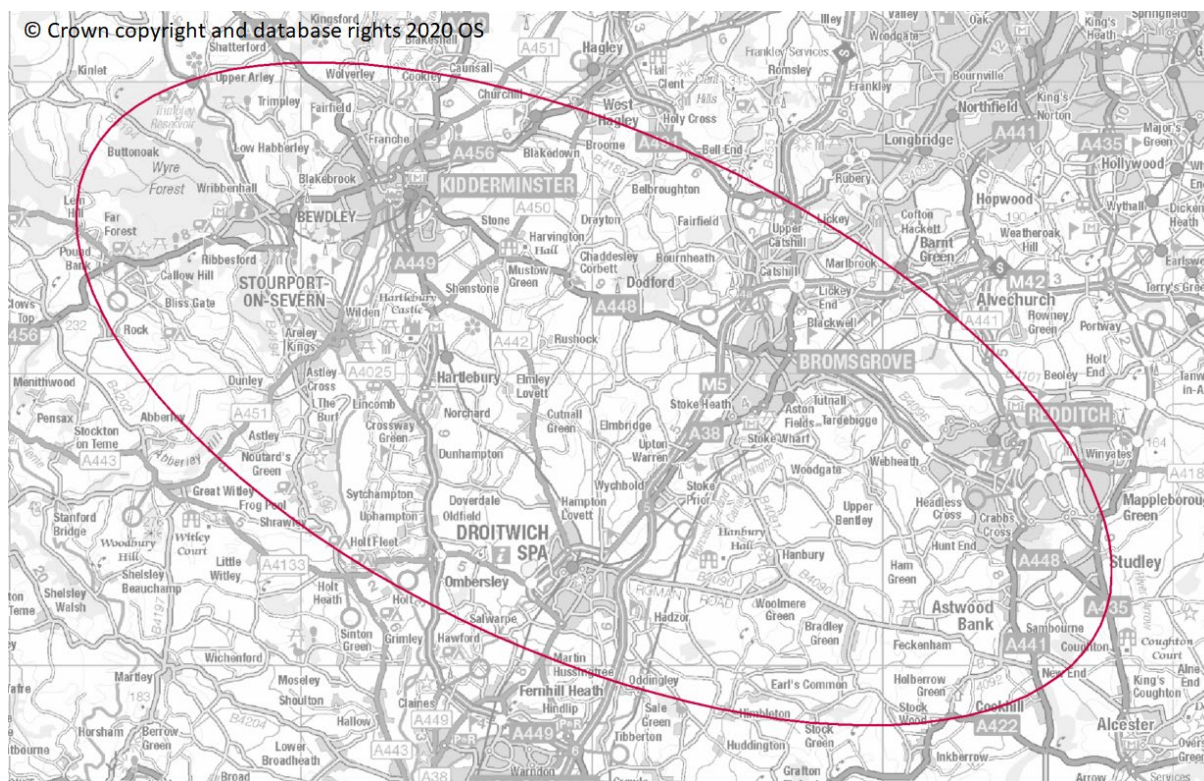
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Bromsgrove, Kidderminster and Redditch



Population within the advertised area: 215,107

Size of advertised area (km²): 535 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FIVE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Birmingham (2,012,043)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 105,123 (5.22%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Coventry (749,125)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 5,826 (0.78%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Hereford and Worcestershire (626,760)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 208,750 (33.31%)

Local DAB service 4 (and licence area population): Wolverhampton and Shropshire (1,317,388)

Local DAB service 4 population overlap (and percentage): 531 (0.04%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Burton-on-Trent & Lichfield, Market Harborough, Oxford, Gloucester, and North Powys.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Headless Cross, Lickey Hills or Bromsgrove DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

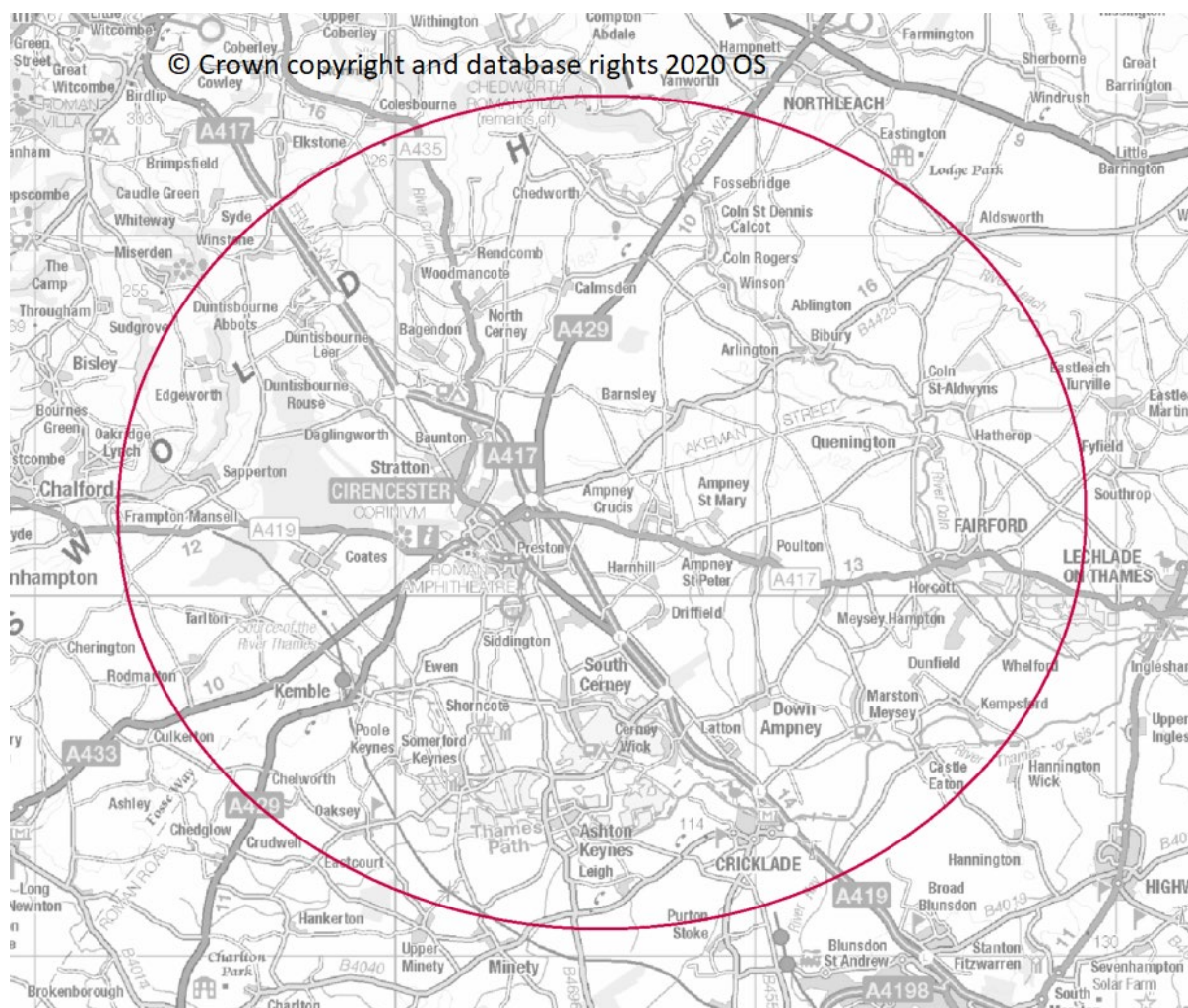
As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance on some parts of the Cotswold Hills within the Gloucester small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some elevated areas of Redditch between Pitcher Oak Wood and Astwood Bank may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Cirencester



Population within the advertised area: 40,115

Size of advertised area(km²): 485 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Gloucestershire (497,527)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 33,394 (6.71%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Swindon & Wiltshire (614,196)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 38,567 (6.28%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Dudley & Stourbridge, Leamington Spa & Stratford-upon-Avon, North Buckinghamshire, Newbury, Salisbury, and Bath & Midsummer Norton.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Blunsdon or Cirencester DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance on high ground around Lambourn within the Newbury small-scale DAB area and on the elevated northern edge of the Bath & Midsummer Norton small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

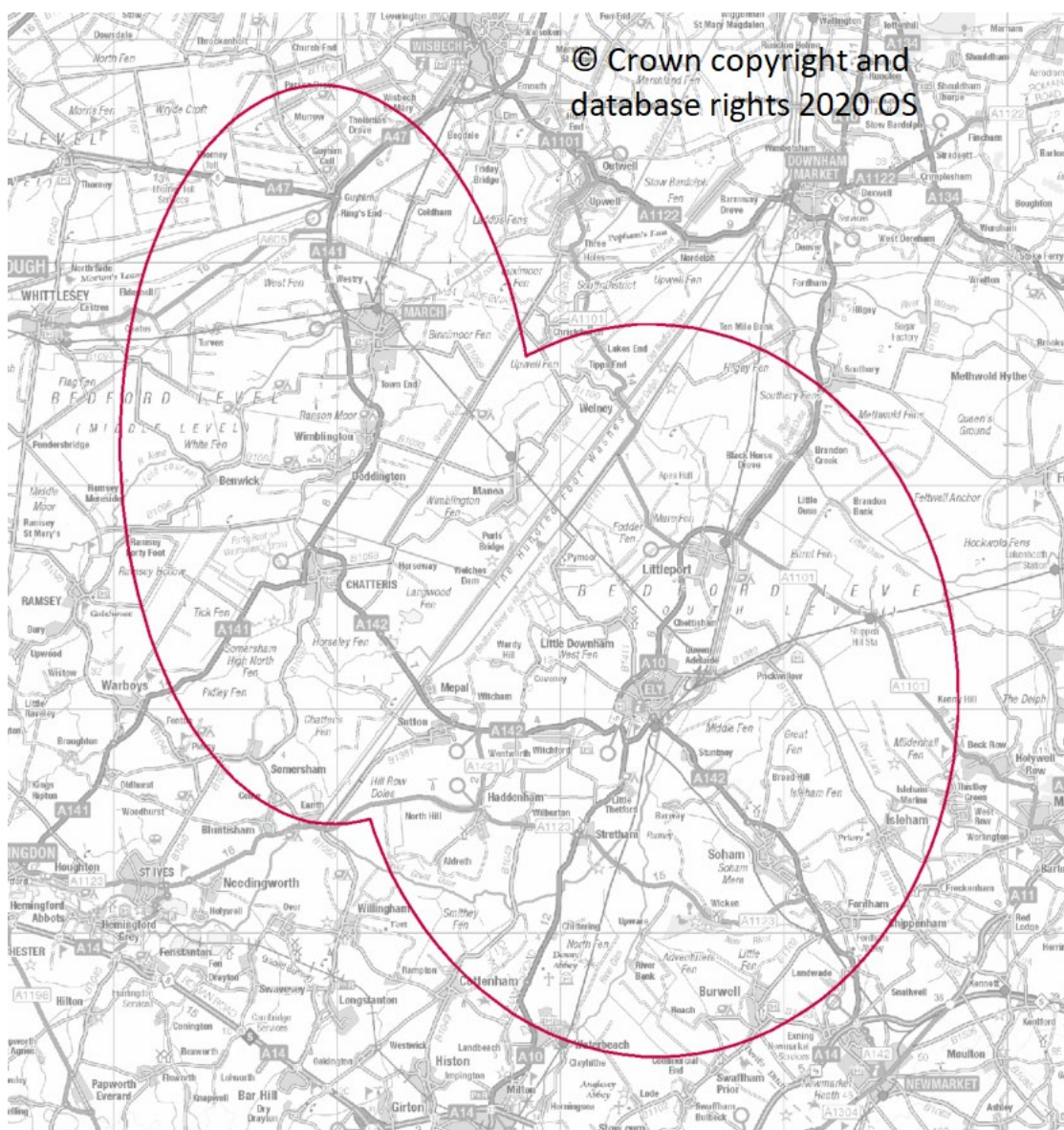
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Ely & March



Population within the advertised area: 104,865

Size of advertised area(km2): 1,072 km2

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Cambridge (417,895)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 65,864 (15.80%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Norfolk (800,879)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 915 (0.11%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Peterborough (442,822)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 37,524 (8.47%)

Local DAB service 4 (and licence area population): Suffolk (588,407)

Local DAB service 4 population overlap (and percentage): 562 (0.10%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Grimsby, North Norfolk, North East London & South West Essex, Wellingborough and Loughborough & Coalville.

Additional information:

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

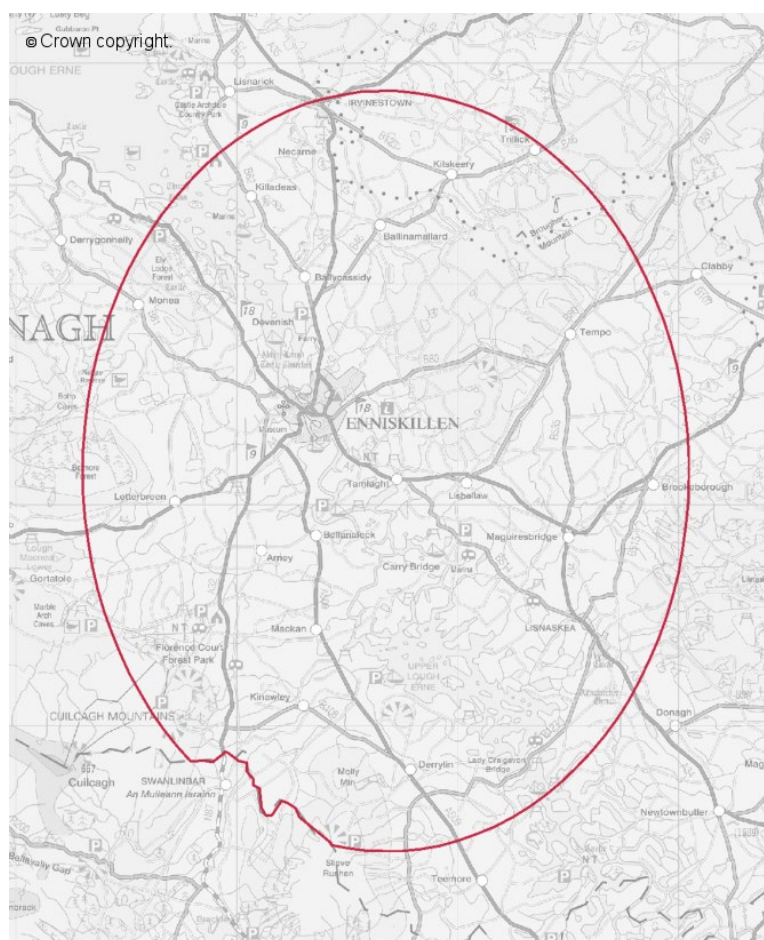
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Enniskillen



Population within the advertised area: 32,115

Size of advertised area (km²): 739 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Northern Ireland (1,448,895)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 32,115 (2.23%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9C

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas; Coleraine and Newry.

Additional information:

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

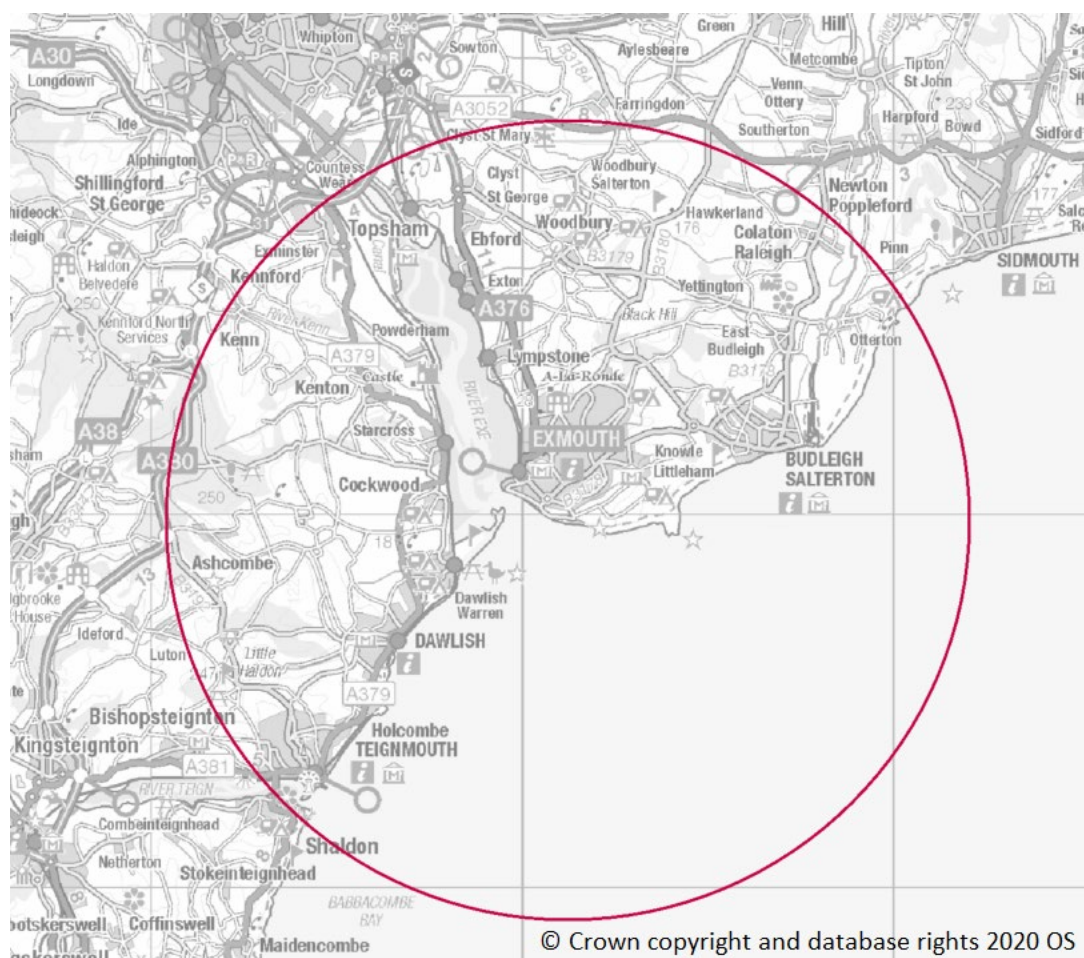
International issues:

Interference into the Republic of Ireland should be kept to a minimum. We request that networks are designed to minimise levels of field strength towards the land border of the

Republic of Ireland by careful site selection, limitation of maximum transmitter powers and the use of directional transmitting antennas as appropriate. It should be noted that, if future developments within the Republic of Ireland result in their need to use Band III spectrum, Ireland has the rights to implement networks in line with existing international agreements. In the event this happens, Ofcom will work with the SSDAB licence holder(s) to resolve any potential interference issues, and this could potentially require a change of transmission frequency or other measures.

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Exmouth and Dawlish



Population within the advertised area: 72,571

Size of advertised area(km2): 350 km2

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Exeter, Torbay & North Devon (704,183)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 72.571 (10.31%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 12D

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: No small-scale DAB areas are expected to be affected.

Co-block local DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 29 dB μ V/m to the following local DAB areas: Mid & West Wales, Berkshire & North Hampshire, and Plymouth.

Additional information:

Ofcom predictions indicate that all coastal transmitters will need to use directional antennas if they are to meet international interference criteria.

If applicants wish to use the existing Holcombe Down DAB transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the southern edge of the Bath & Midsomer Norton small-scale DAB area on the Mendip Hills and on the elevated northern edge of the Weymouth, Dorchester & Bridport small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, an area of high ground from Knowle to Woodbury Castle, broadly along the B3179, may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from local DAB multiplexes.

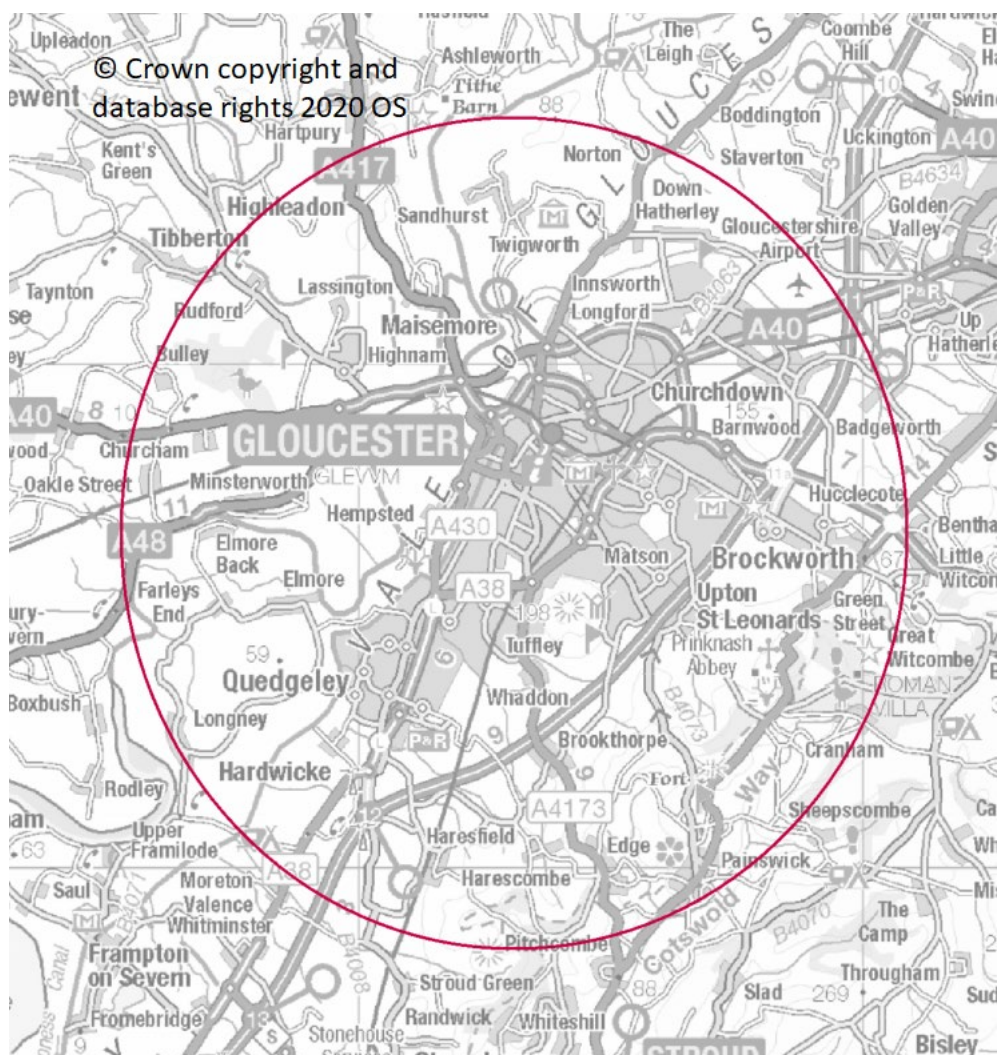
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Out-going interference toward France should not exceed 24 dB μ V/m on the coast of Normandy east of Vierville-sur-Mer or the Pays-de-Calais coast.

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Gloucester



Population within the advertised area: 131,796

Size of advertised area (km²): 201 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Gloucestershire (497,527)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 131,796 (26.49%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Bromsgrove, Kidderminster & Redditch, Oxford, Swindon & Marlborough, and Newport & Chepstow.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Churchdown Hill or Stockend Wood DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

Within this advertised area, western areas of the Cotswold Hills may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

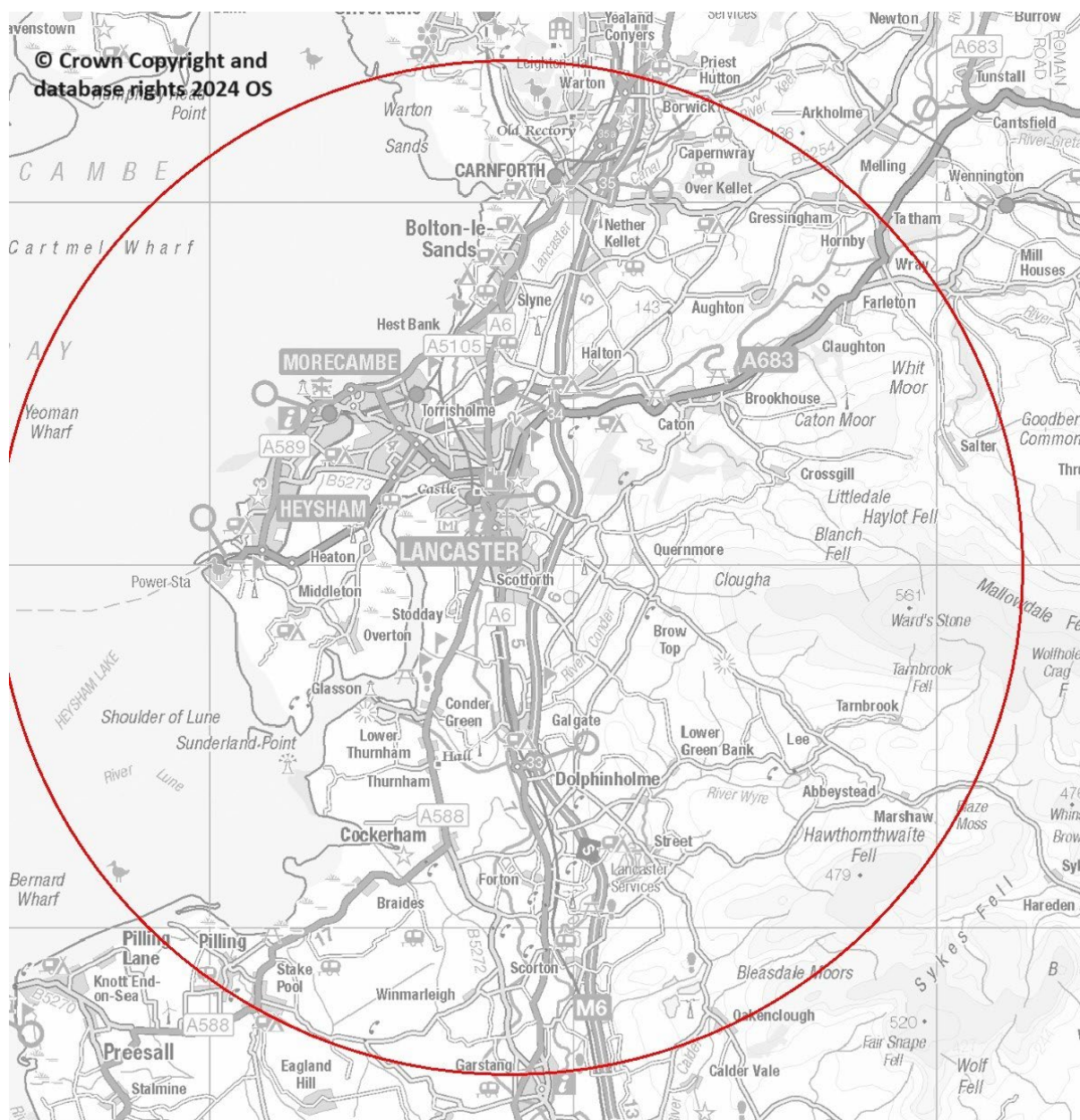
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Lancaster



Population within the advertised area: 116,708

Size of the advertised area (km²): 606 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Lancashire (1,287,627)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 116,708 (9.06%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Morecambe Bay (282,730)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 112,524 (39.80%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 7D

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas; Carlisle and Penrith, Catterick, Ripon & Thirsk, Wakefield & Castleford, Manchester, and Liverpool.

Additional information:

Since Ofcom's consultation on licensing small-scale DAB, Licensing small-scale DAB: How Ofcom would exercise new functions proposed by Government, two local DAB licences have commenced in Cumbria. These have smaller licence areas and population than the whole of Cumbria local DAB area that was used for the consultation. Consequently, the size of the Carlisle & Penrith, Lancaster, and Workington & Whitehaven small-scale DAB areas have been modified to comply with the 40% local DAB population overlap criteria.

Within this advertised area, some areas around Quernmore and Dolphinholme as well as elevated parts of the Forest of Bowland may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

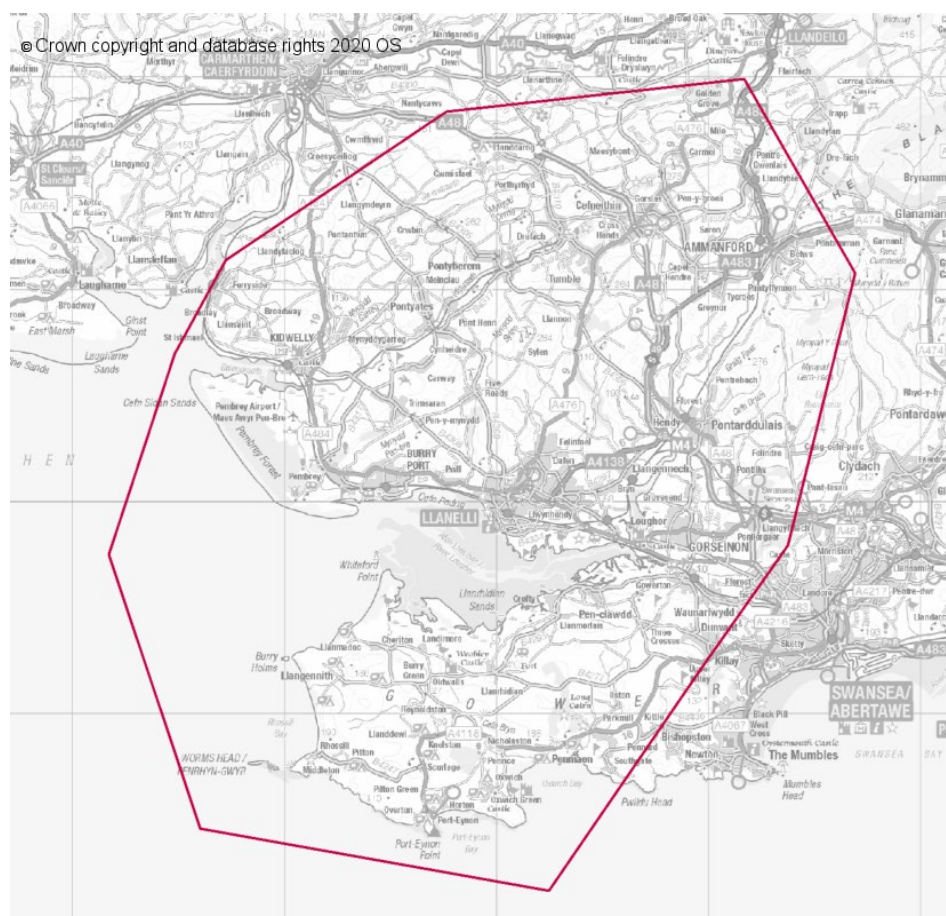
International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

However, interference into the Republic of Ireland should be kept to a minimum. Networks may need to be designed to minimise levels of field strength towards the Republic of Ireland by careful site selection, limitation of maximum transmitter powers and the use of directional transmitting antennas as appropriate. It should be noted that if future developments within the Republic of Ireland result in their need to use Band III spectrum, Ireland has the rights to implement networks in line with existing international agreements. In the event this happens, Ofcom will work with the SSDAB licence holder(s) to resolve any potential interference issues, and this could potentially require a change of transmission frequency or other measures.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Llanelli



Population within the advertised area: 143,324

Size of advertised area (km²): 946 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Mid and west Wales (379,159)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 92,039 (24.27%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Swansea (596,014)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 143,324 (24.05%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9C

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Brecon, Weston-Super-Mare, and Barnstaple & Bideford.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Carmel or Mynydd Sylen DAB transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the

northern edge of the Barnstaple & Bideford small-scale DAB area along and to the north of the B3343 and on some elevated parts of Bannau Brycheiniog within the Brecon small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some southern coastal and elevated areas of the Gower Peninsula as well as high ground north of Pontarddulais may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

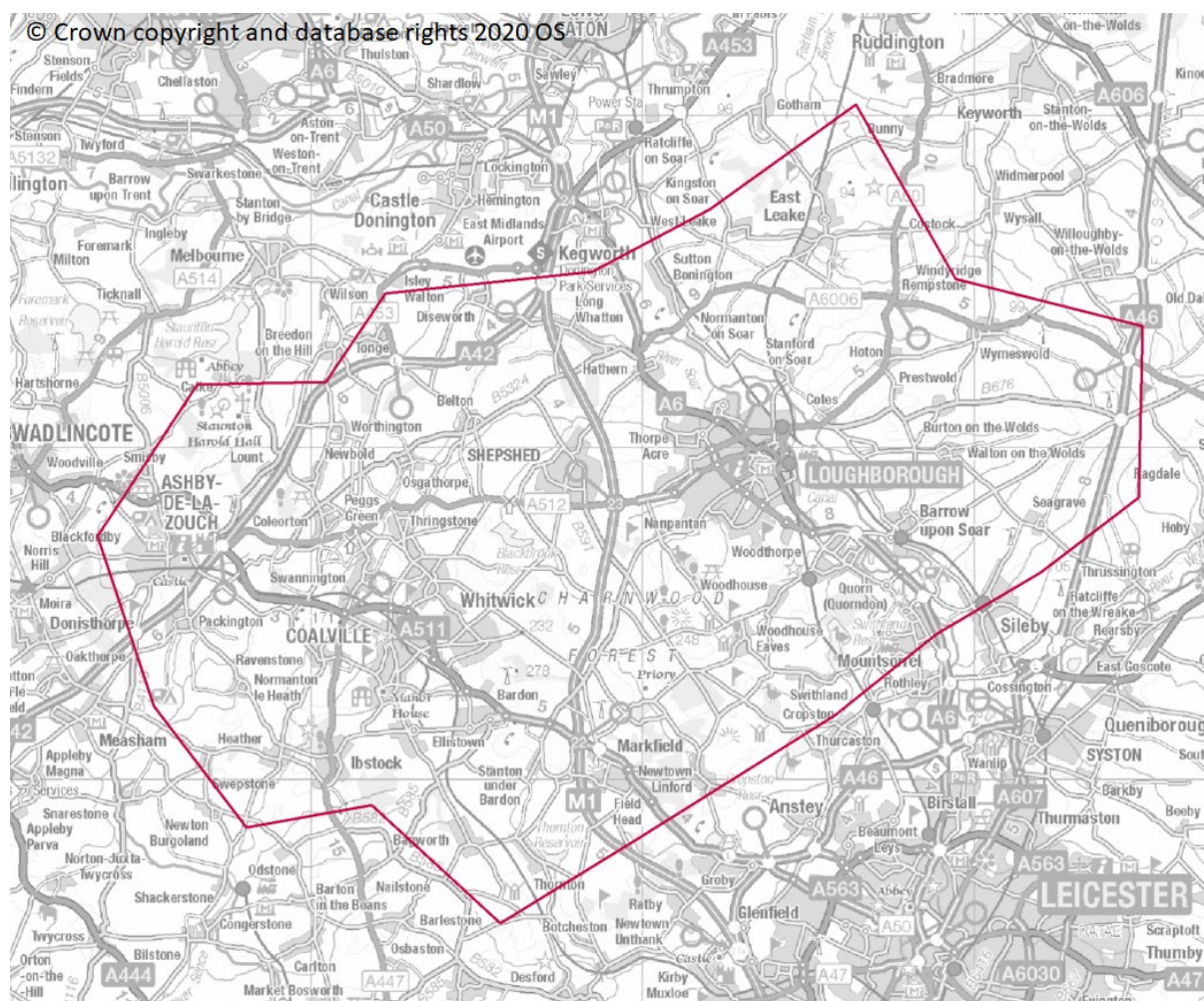
International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

However, interference into the Republic of Ireland should be kept to a minimum. Networks may need to be designed to minimise levels of field strength towards the Republic of Ireland by careful site selection, limitation of maximum transmitter powers and the use of directional transmitting antennas as appropriate. It should be noted that if future developments within the Republic of Ireland result in their need to use Band III spectrum, Ireland has the rights to implement networks in line with existing international agreements. In the event this happens, Ofcom will work with the SSDAB licence holder(s) to resolve any potential interference issues, and this could potentially require a change of transmission frequency or other measures.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Loughborough and Coalville



Population within the advertised area: 160,019

Size of advertised area(km2): 434 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Derbyshire (647,026)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 221 (0.03%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Leicestershire (837,102)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 151,212 (18.06%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Nottinghamshire (1,007,638)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 9,535 (0.94%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Doncaster, Grimsby, Ely & March, Wellingborough, Leamington Spa & Stratford-upon-Avon, Dudley & Stourbridge, Stoke & Newcastle, and Stockport.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Bardon Hill or Copt Oak DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance on the Client Hills, Turners Hill and east of the M5 within the Dudley & Stourbridge small-scale DAB area as well as to the north of Leamington Spa and around Bishop's Itchington within the Leamington Spa & Stratford-upon-avon small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some areas around Bardon Hill and Bagworth may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

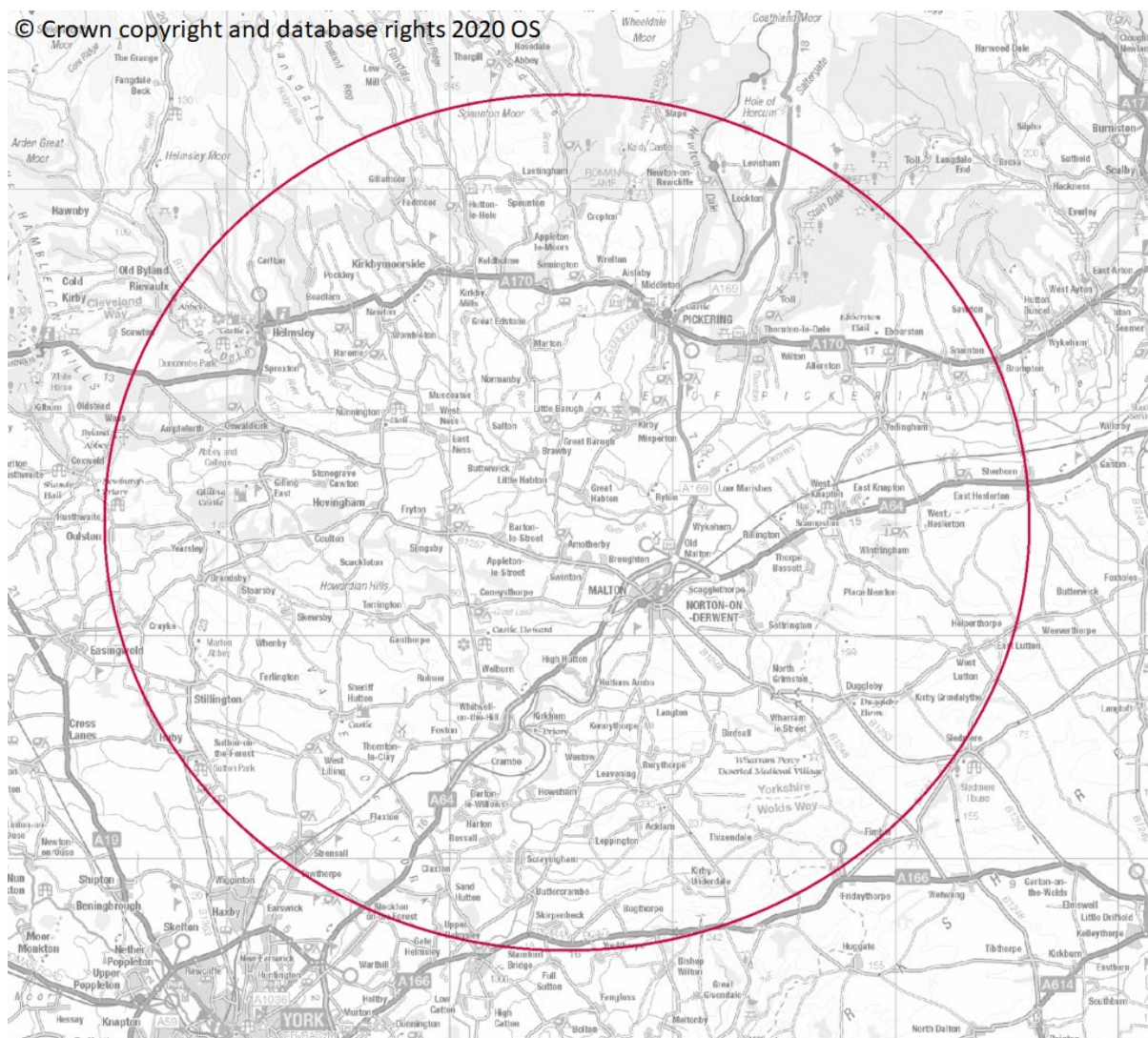
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Malton



Population within the advertised area: 47,336

Size of advertised area (km²): 1,208 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Humberside (777,380)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 343 (0.04%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): North Yorkshire (670,391)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 46,993 (7.01%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Durham, Scunthorpe, and Leeds.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Acklam Wold or Garrowby Hill DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance to the north of the A1077 within the Scunthorpe small-scale DAB area and around the Wellington Hill area within the Leeds small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some isolated areas to the south of Acklam Wold, around Towthorpe (Burdale) as well as parts of the Howardian Hills may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

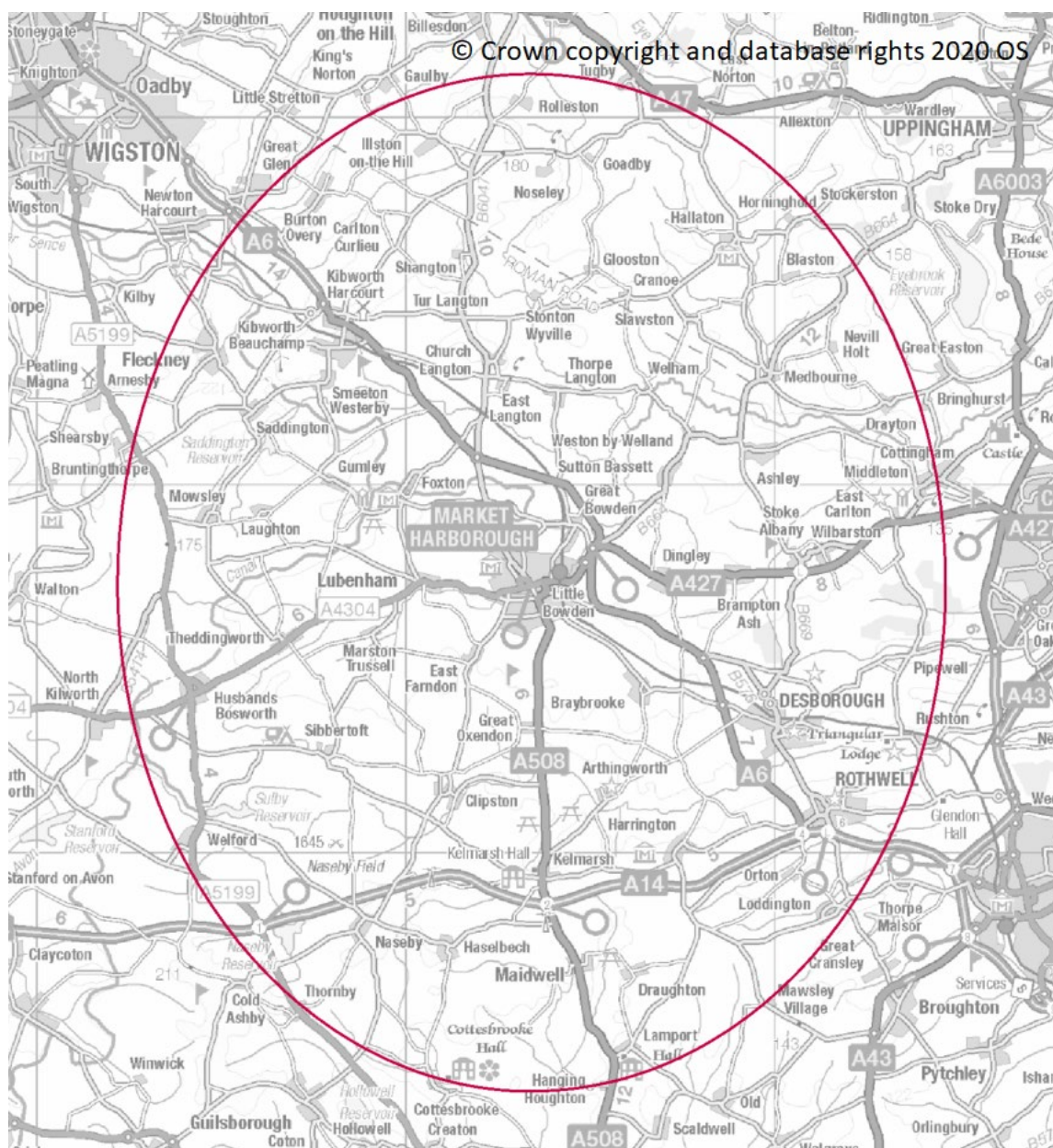
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Market Harborough



Population within the advertised area: 55,710

Size of advertised area (km²): 473 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Leicestershire (837,102)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 34,128 (4.07%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Northamptonshire (531,211)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 21,582 (4.06%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Mansfield & Worksop, Boston, Spalding & Skegness, Bury St Edmunds, Thetford & Mildenhall, Haverhill, Oxford, and Burton-on-Trent & Lichfield.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Houghton-on-the-Hill DAB transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

Within this advertised area, some isolated areas of high ground around Mowsley may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

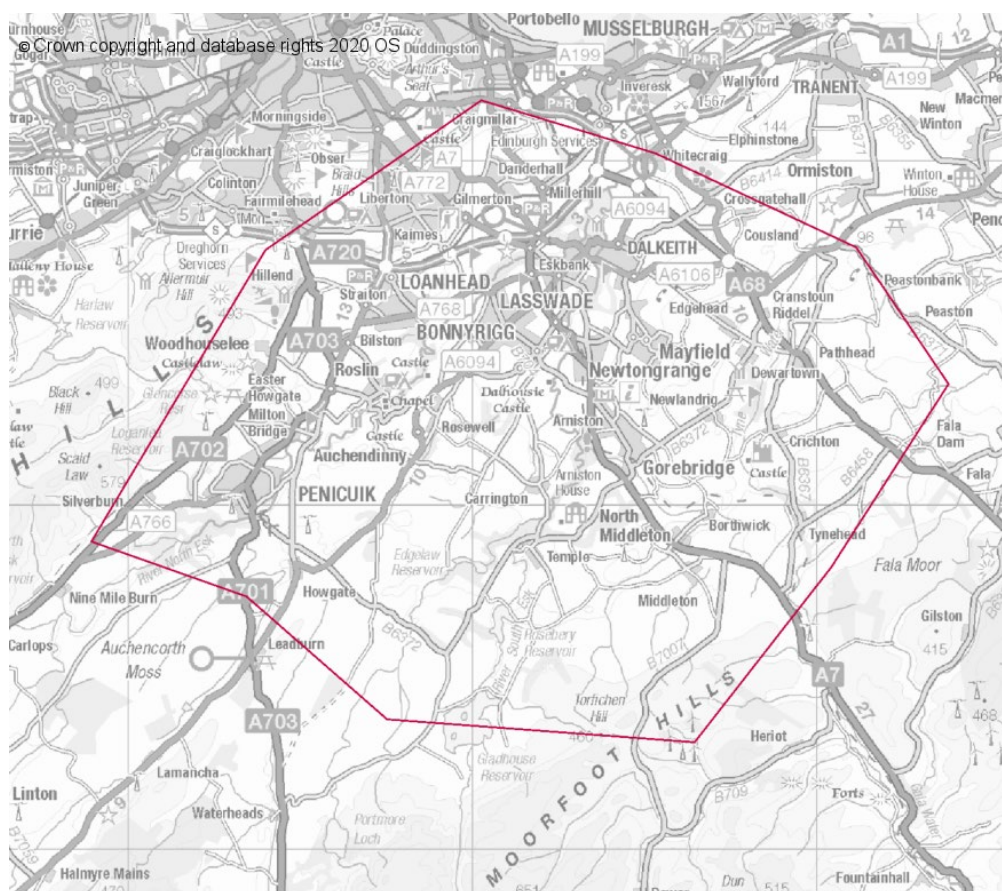
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Midlothian



Population within the advertised area: 95,343

Size of advertised area (km²): 297 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FIVE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Edinburgh (1,266,453)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 95,343 (7.53%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Dundee, and Cumbernauld & Coatbridge.

Additional information:

Within this advertised area, parts of the Moorfoot Hills may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

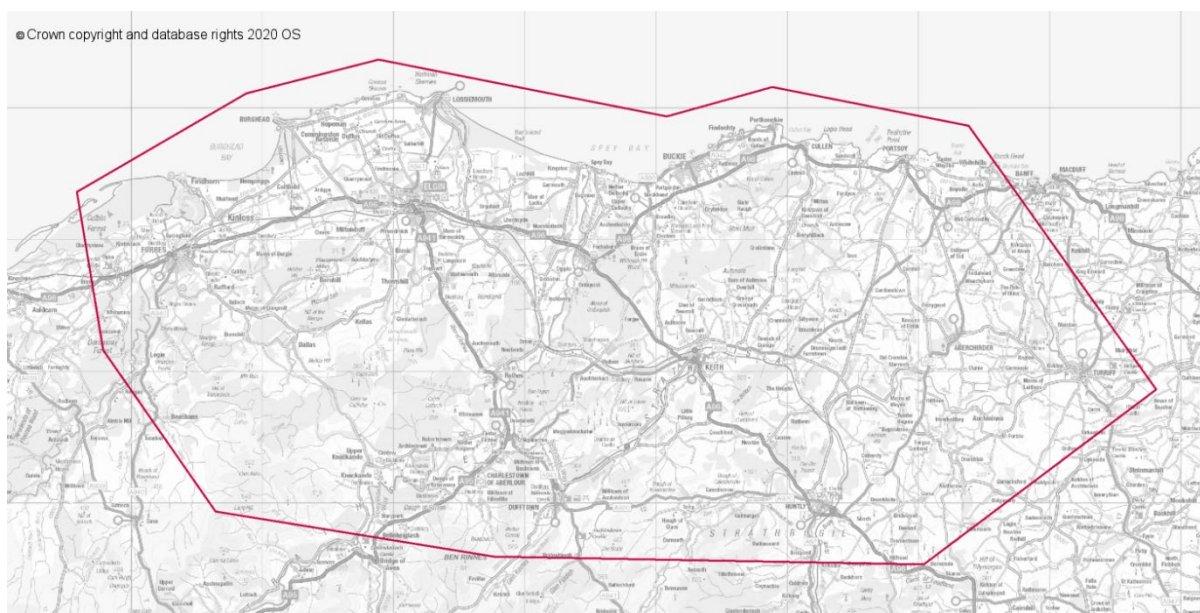
Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Moray Coast South



Population within the advertised area: 93,959

Size of the advertised area (km²): 2,400 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Aberdeen (383,993)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 13,711 (3.6%)

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Inverness (267,100)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 80,248 (30.0%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

No restrictions towards other small-scale DAB areas are expected to be required.

Additional information:

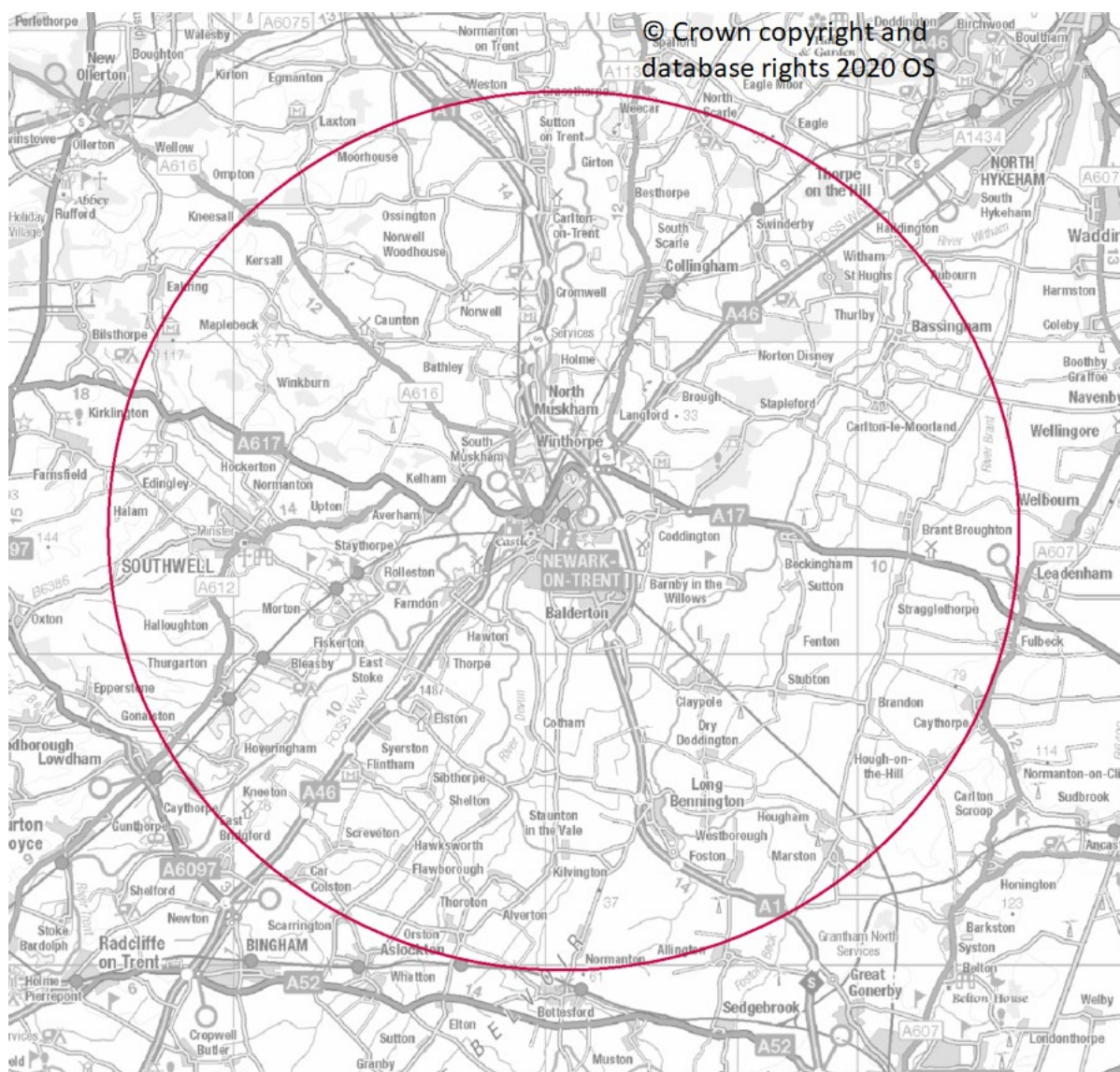
Ofcom does not expect there to be any significant incoming or outgoing interference issues between this and other small-scale DAB areas. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

No incoming or outgoing international interference issues are expected for this service.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Newark-on-Trent



Population within the advertised area: 67,574

Size of advertised area (km²): 626 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Lincolnshire (746,575)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 10,707 (1.43%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Nottinghamshire (1,007,638)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 60,183 (5.97%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9C

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Sheffield & Rotherham, Kings Lynn, Rutland & Stamford, and Derby.

Additional information:

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the eastern edge of the Sheffield & Rotherham small-scale DAB area on the Pennine Hills. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some isolated areas around Maplebeck may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

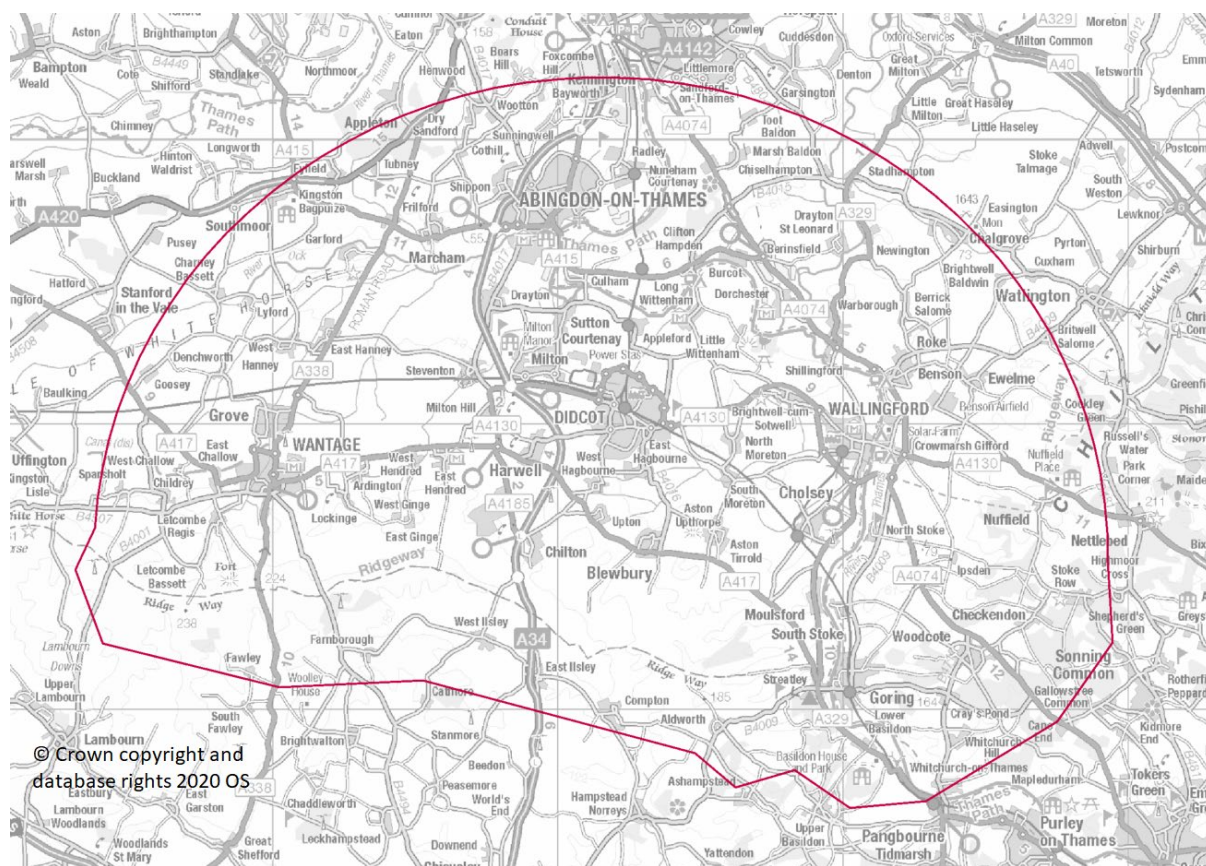
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

North Berkshire and South Oxfordshire



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Population within the advertised area: 133,312

Size of advertised area (km²): 677 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Berkshire and North Hampshire (905,496)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 11,590 (1.29%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Oxfordshire (531,992)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 121,722 (22.89%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Swindon and Wiltshire (614,196)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 109 (0.02%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Rugby & Daventry, Huntingdon, South London, Andover, and South Gloucestershire.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Boars Hill or Woodcote DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

Within this advertised area, there may be a strip of high ground along the Ridgeway and running northwest along the Chiltern Hills from Woodcote which may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

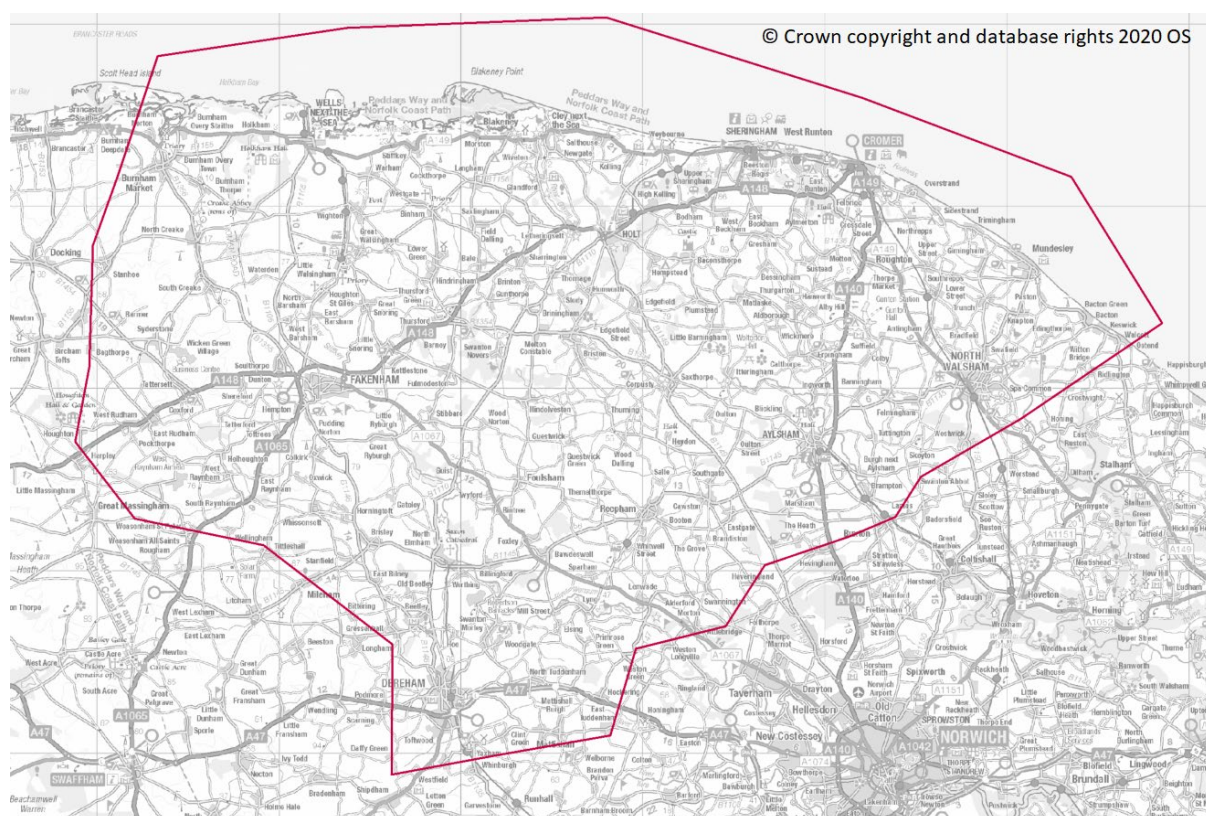
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

North Norfolk



Population within the advertised area: 117,645

Size of advertised area (km²): 1,562 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Norfolk (800,879)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 117,645 (14.69%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Ely & March, and Grimsby.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use either the existing Daffy Green or Great Massingham DAB transmitter sites, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

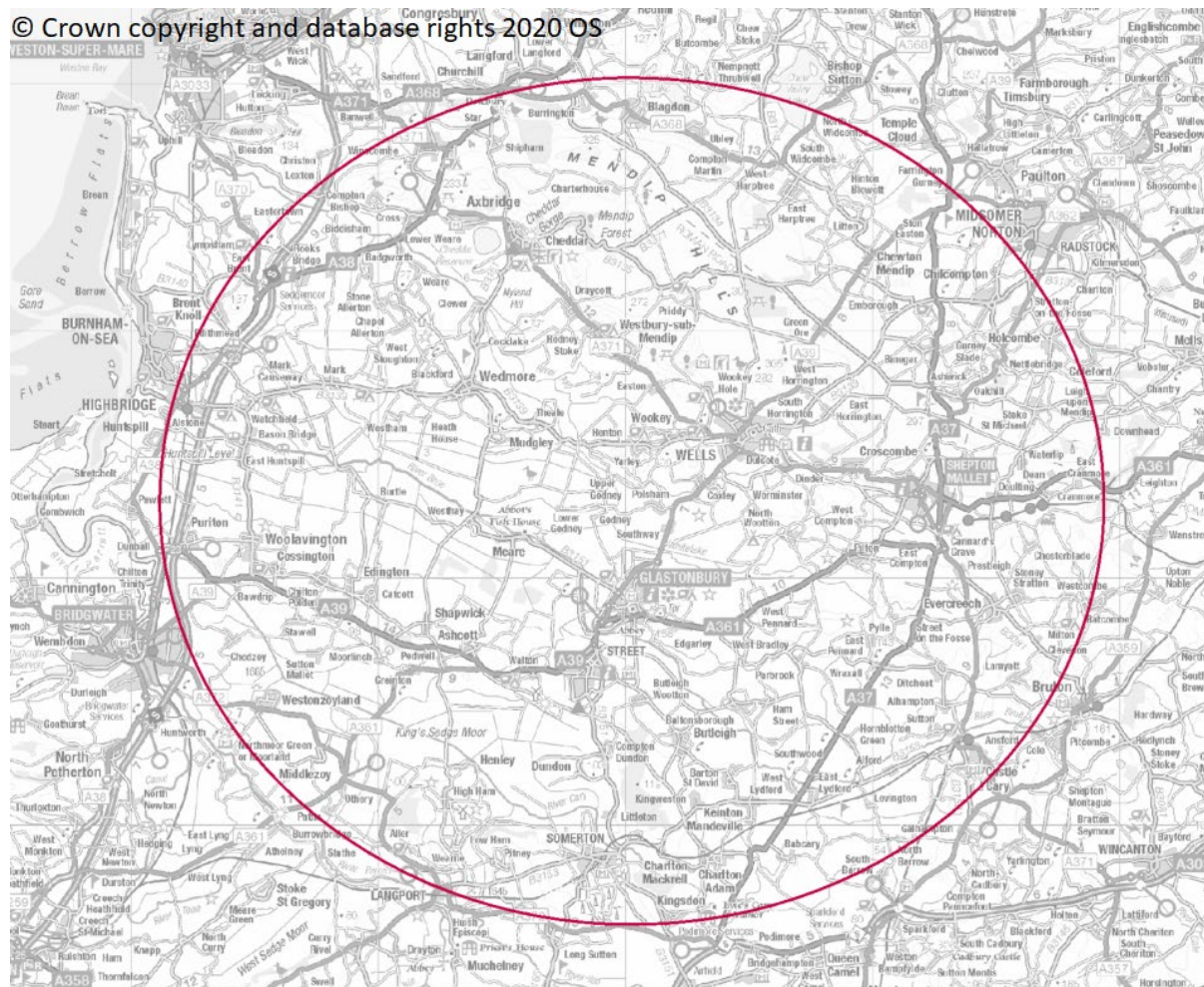
International issues:

Outgoing interference should not exceed 32 dBuV/m at the coast of either The Netherlands or Belgium.

For information: In eastern coastal parts of the advertised area, incoming interference from the continent during periods of enhanced propagation may be two to three dBs higher than the normal 38 dBuV/m level.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

North Somerset



Population within the advertised area: 105,533

Size of advertised area (km²): 1,007 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Bristol and Bath (905,061)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 14,343 (1.58%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Somerset (522,893)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 101,969 (19.51%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 7D

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Monmouth, Chippenham & Malmesbury, Ringwood, Verwood & Fordingbridge, Tiverton, and Swansea.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Mendip DAB transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance on elevated ground around Hockworthy & Huntsham as well as the Heydon Hill area within the Tiverton small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, significant high parts of the Mendip Hills as well as around Breech Woods may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on-air in the future.

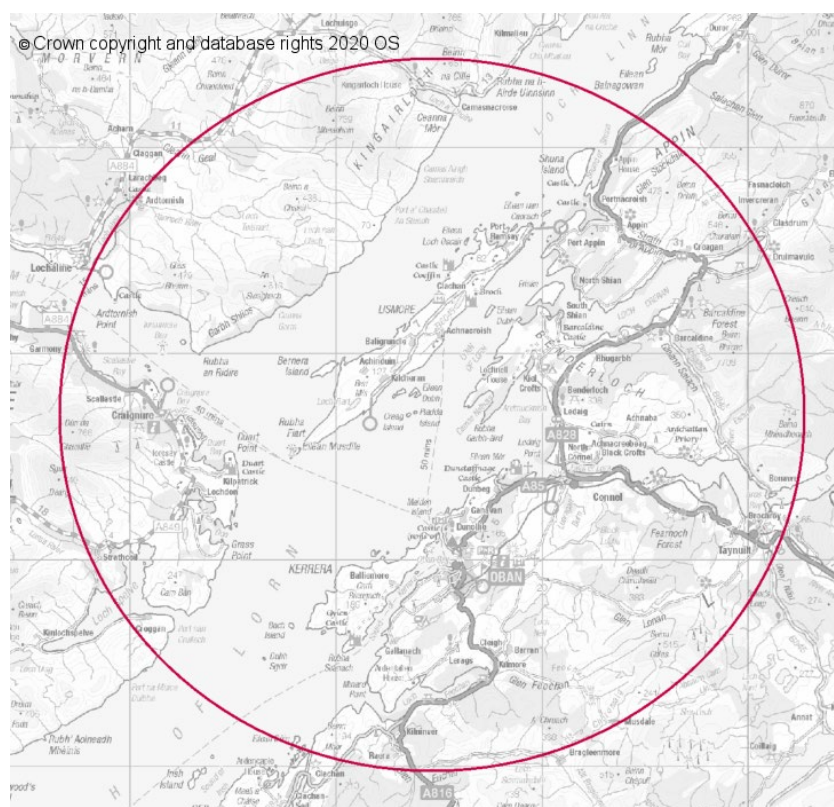
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Oban



Population within the advertised area: 11,859

Size of the advertised area (km²): 886 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): This area is presently unserved by local DAB.

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): Not applicable.

Proposed frequency block: Block 9A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

No restrictions towards other small-scale DAB areas are expected to be required.

Additional information:

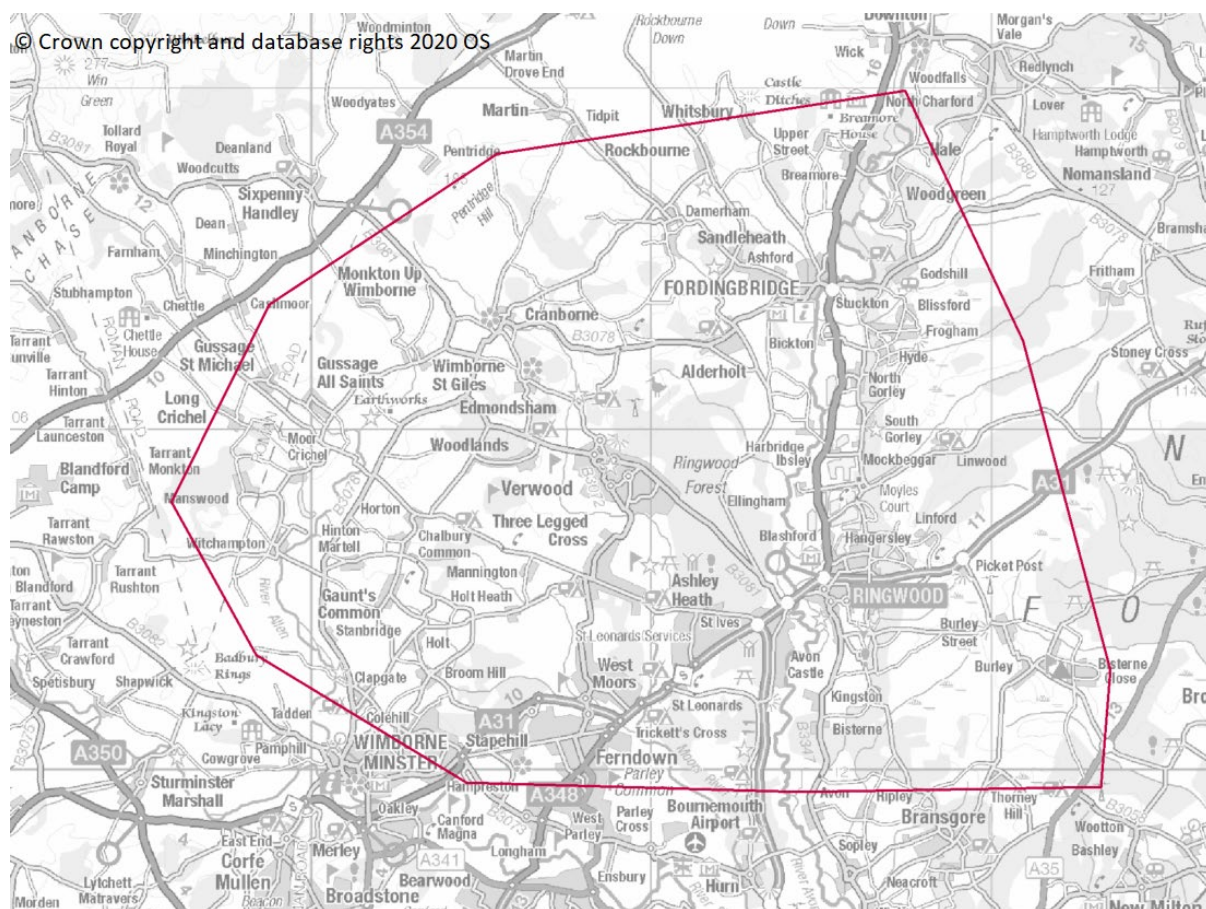
Ofcom does not expect there to be any significant incoming or outgoing interference issues between this and other small-scale DAB areas. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

No incoming or outgoing international interference issues are expected for this service.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Ringwood, Verwood and Fordingbridge



Population within the advertised area: 71,802

Size of the advertised area (km²): 427 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Bournemouth & Dorset (653,110)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 71,802 (10.99 %)

Proposed frequency block: Block 7D

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Chippenham & Malmesbury, Guildford & Woking, Brighton, South Hams, Tiverton, and North Somerset.

Additional information:

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

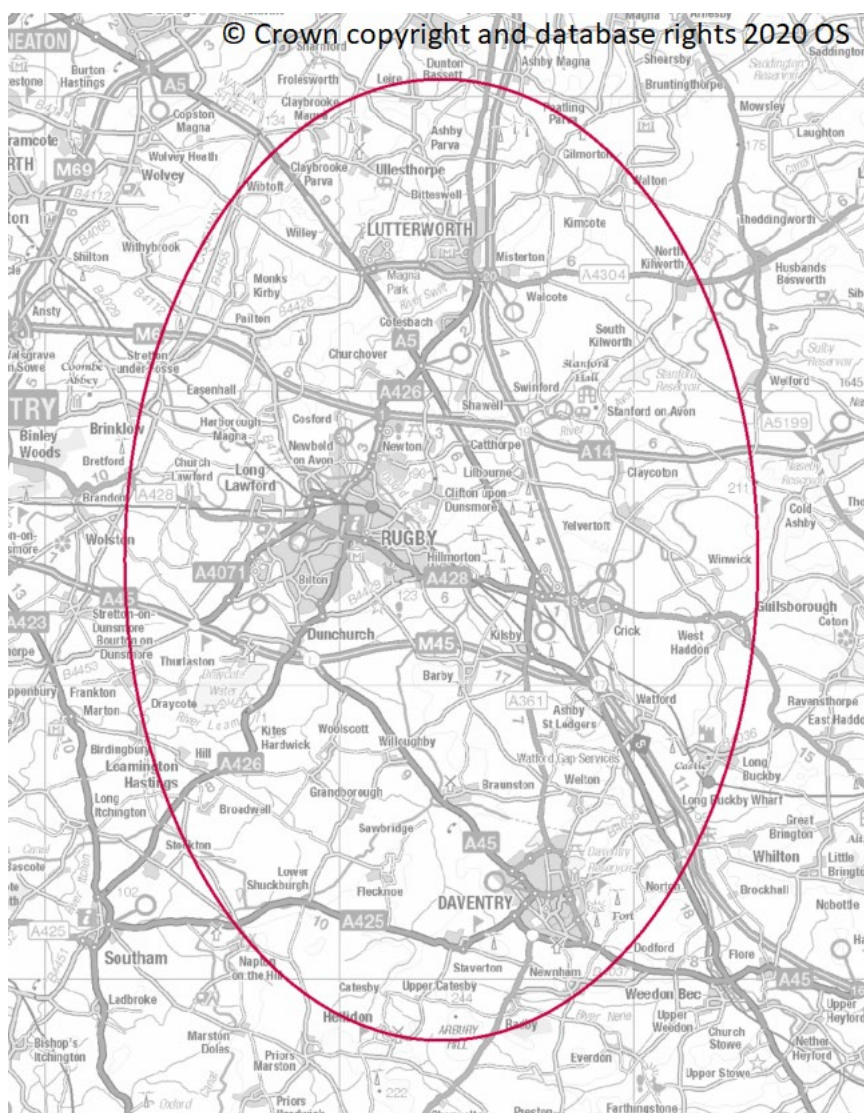
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Out-going interference should not exceed 36 dB μ V/m at the coast of France.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Rugby & Daventry



Population within the advertised area: 117,784

Size of advertised area(km²): 539 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Coventry (749,125)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 73,631 (9.83%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Leicestershire (837,102)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 13,766 (1.64%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Northamptonshire (531,211)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 34,147 (6.43%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Grantham & Sleaford, Huntingdon, North Berkshire & South Oxfordshire, and North Birmingham.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the existing Daventry DAB transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

Within this advertised area, some isolated areas around Harborough Magna and Gilmorton may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

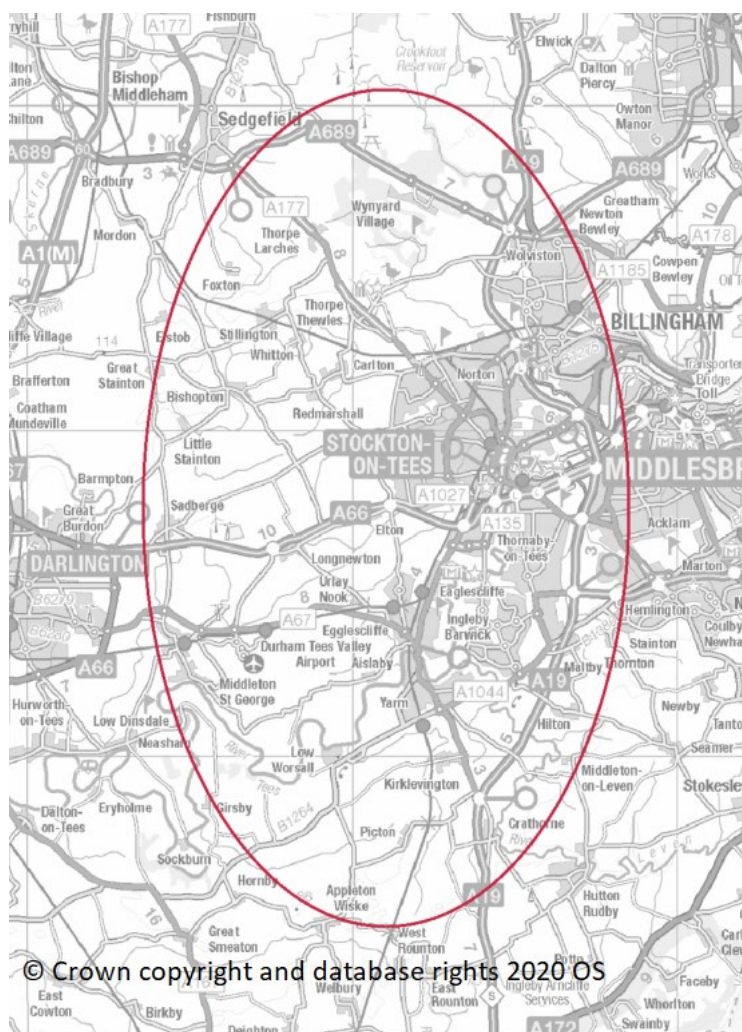
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Stockton-on-Tees



Population within the advertised area: 174,828

Size of the advertised area (km²): 296 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): North Yorkshire (670,391)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 635 (0.09%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Teesside (800,680)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 174,828 (21.83%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB licence areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas; Alnwick & Morpeth, York, and Bradford.

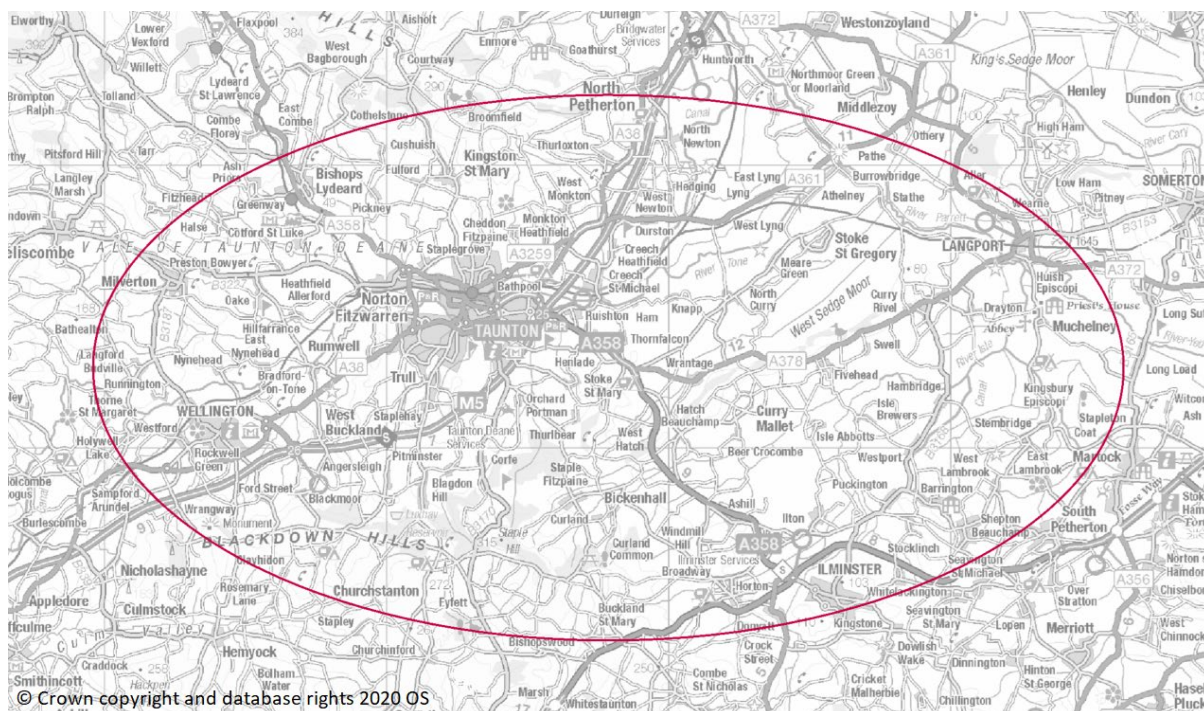
Additional information:

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Taunton



Population within the advertised area: 103,546

Size of advertised area (km²): 536 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FIVE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Somerset (522,893)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 103,546 (19.80%)

Proposed frequency block: 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB licence areas to be protected:

Bath & Midsomer Norton, Salisbury, Weymouth, Dorchester & Bridport, and Bridgend

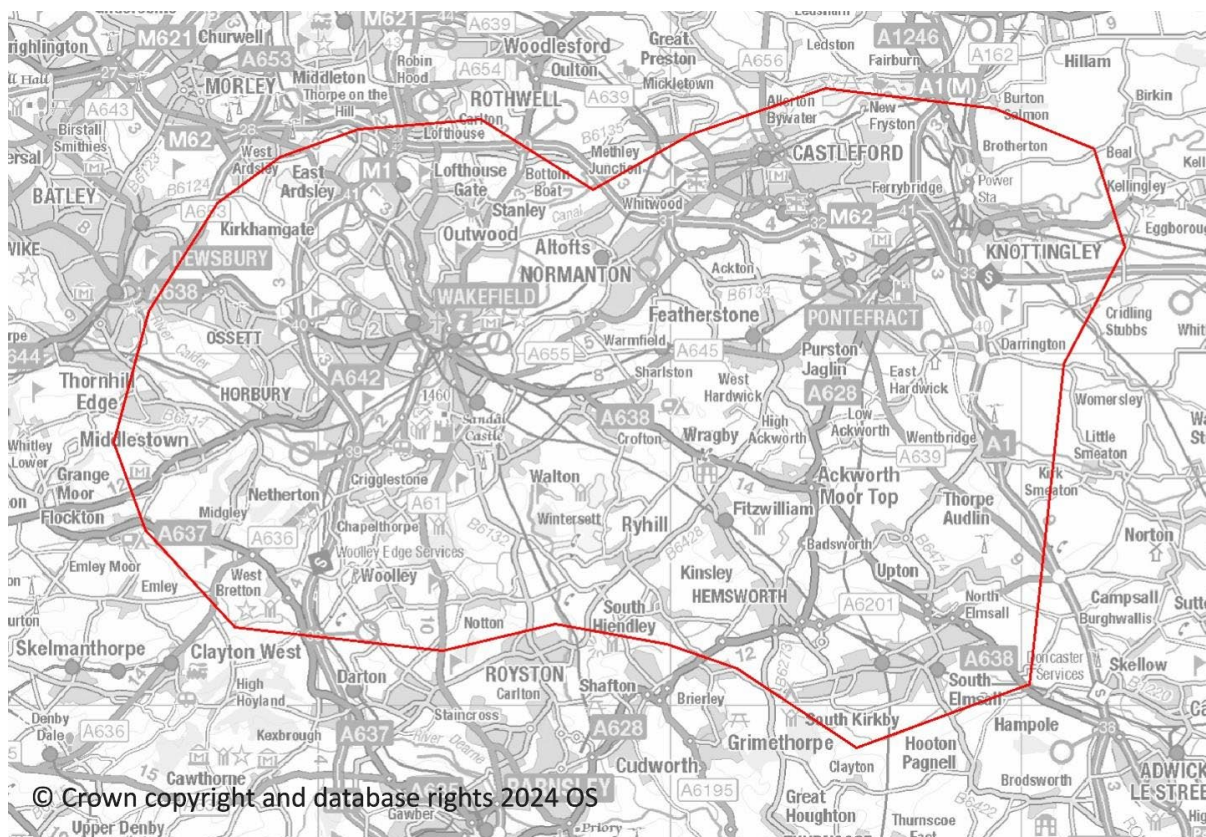
Additional information:

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the southern edge of the Bath & Midsomer Norton small-scale DAB area on the Mendip Hills and on the elevated northern edge of the Weymouth, Dorchester & Bridport small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, the high ground of the Blackdown Hills and the southern Quantocks may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Wakefield & Castleford



Population within the advertised area: 293,021

Size of advertised area (km²): 389 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FIVE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Leeds (1,152,218)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 292,706 (25.40%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): North Yorkshire (670,391)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 1,958 (0.29%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): South Yorkshire (1,416,988)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 315 (0.02%)

Proposed frequency block: 7D

Possible co-block small-scale DAB licence areas to be protected:

Catterick, Ripon & Thirsk, East Hull, Nottingham, and Manchester.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the Emley Moor transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a very low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna will be necessary to meet outgoing interference criteria.

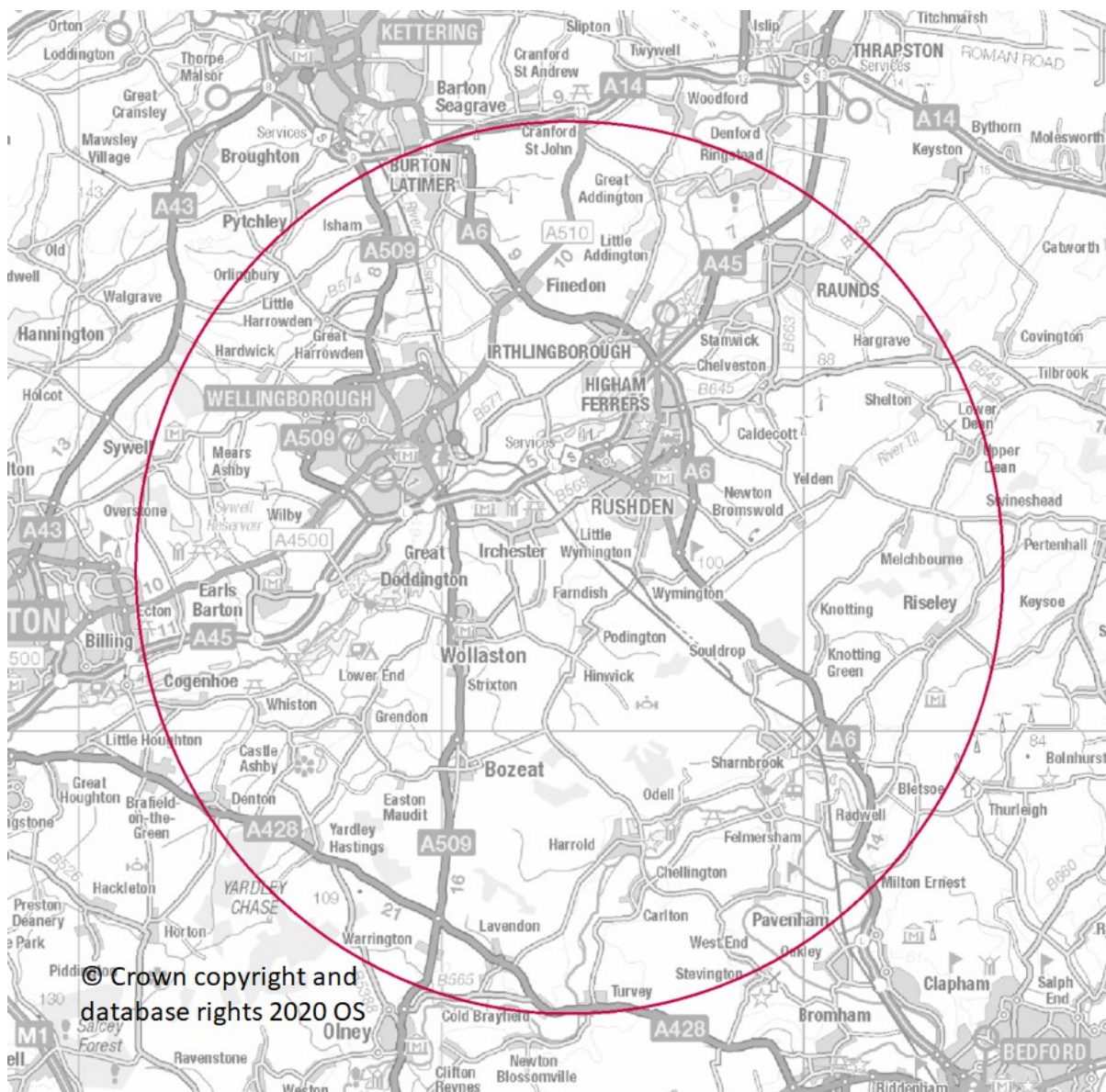
Within this advertised area, an area south of Knottingley & Jackson Hill as well as high ground south of Havercroft may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from

small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

Ofcom does not expect there to be any significant outgoing interference issues if levels from the Emley Moor site are heavily restricted.

See [licence area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Wellingborough



Population within the advertised area: 126,922

Size of advertised area (km²): 444 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire (2,008,567)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 10,497 (0.52%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Northamptonshire (531,211)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 116,425 (21.92%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8A

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas; Loughborough & Coalville, Ely & March, North Buckinghamshire, and Leamington Spa & Stratford-upon-Avon.

Additional information:

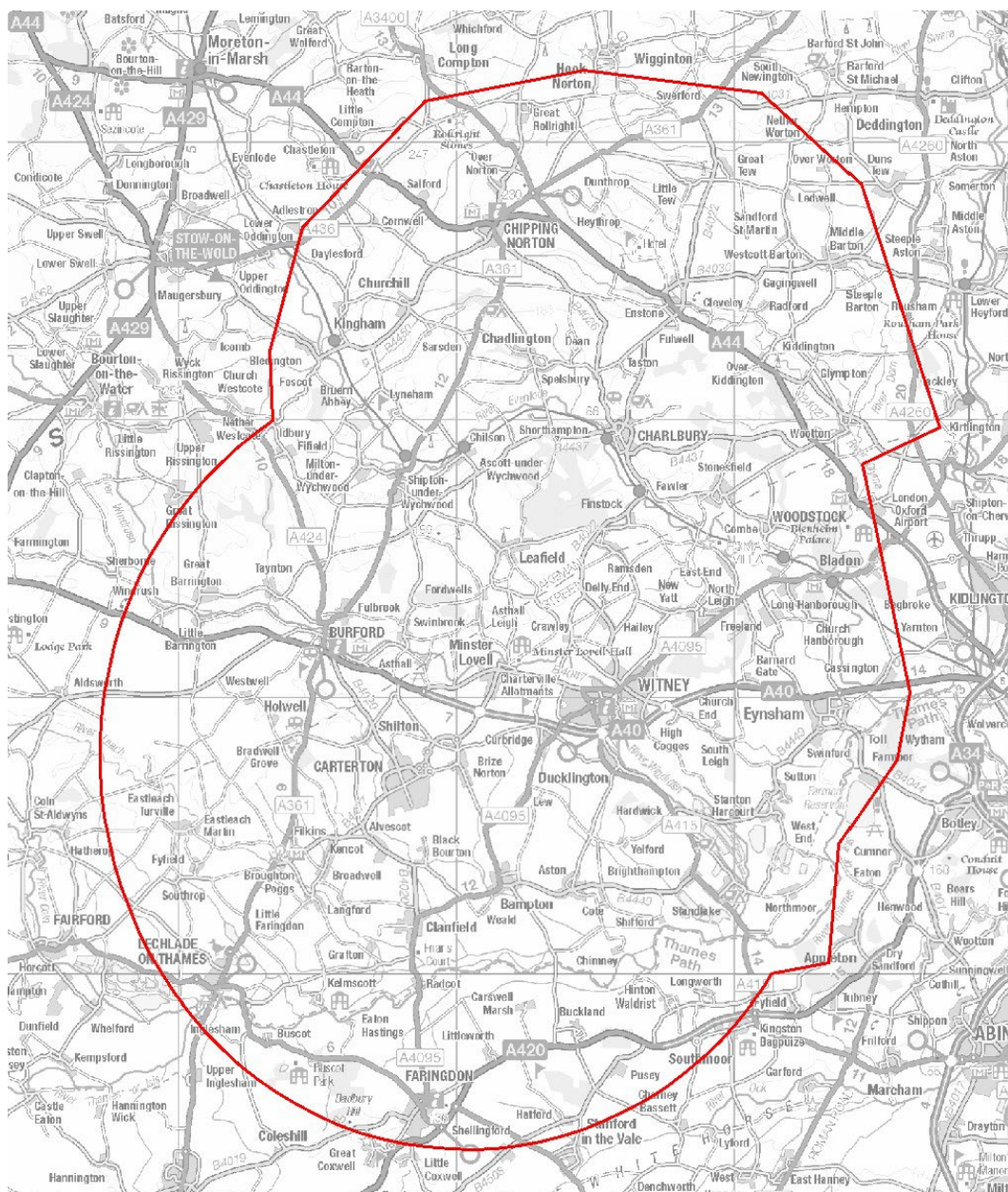
As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the northern edge of the North Buckinghamshire small-scale DAB area on and around Whaddon Chase. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some areas around Yardley Chase may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

West Oxfordshire



Population within the advertised area: 96,767

Size of advertised area (km²): 865 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FIVE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Gloucestershire (497,527)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 3,493 (0.70%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Oxfordshire (531,992)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 93,274 (17.53%)

Local DAB service 3 (and licence area population): Swindon and Wiltshire (614,196)

Local DAB service 3 population overlap (and percentage): 10,777 (1.75%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Coventry, Milton Keynes, North London, Southampton, East Bristol, Mangotsfield & Keynsham, and Stroud.

Additional information:

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance south of Nailsworth and northeast of Bisley within the Stroud small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some isolated areas around Faringdon along the A420, along the A361 to the northeast of Chipping Norton, on Badbury Hill as well as high ground from Chastleton Hill to Great Rollright may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

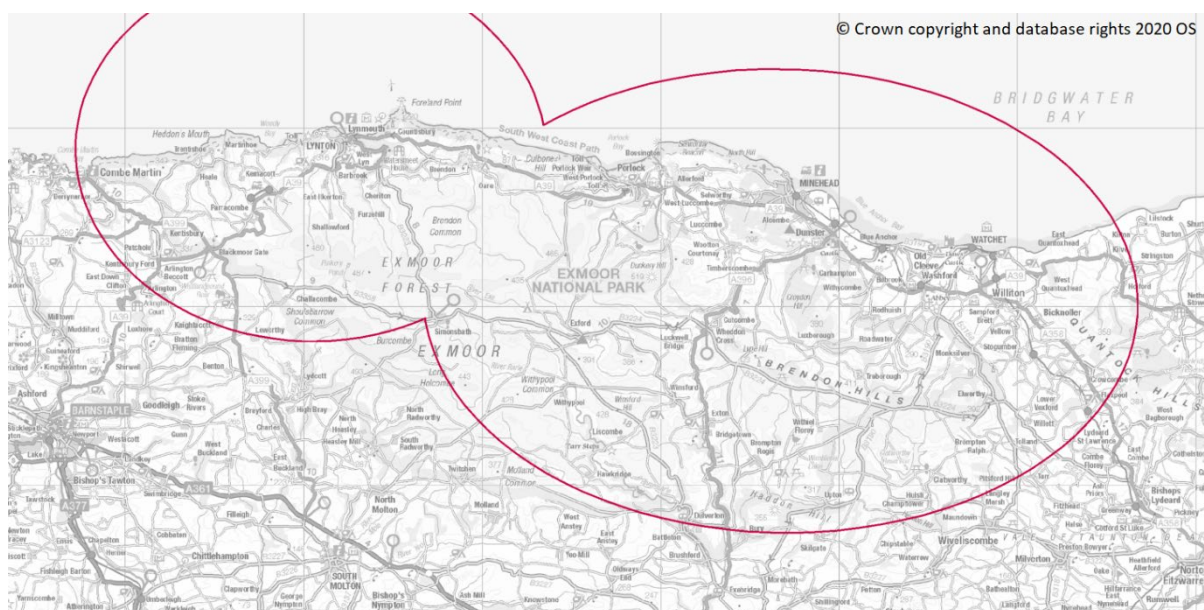
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

West Somerset and Lynton



Population within the advertised area: 32,386

Size of advertised area(km²): 1,216 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Exeter, Torbay and North Devon (704,183)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 4,655 (0.66%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Somerset (552,893)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 27,731 (5.30%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 8B

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Newport & Chepstow, Torbay, and Newquay, St Austell & Truro.

Additional information:

Ofcom predictions indicate that coastal transmitters may need to use directional antennas if they are to meet interference criteria.

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the southern coastal parts and the elevated ground around Risca within the Newport & Chepstow small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some elevated areas of the Brendon Hills may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

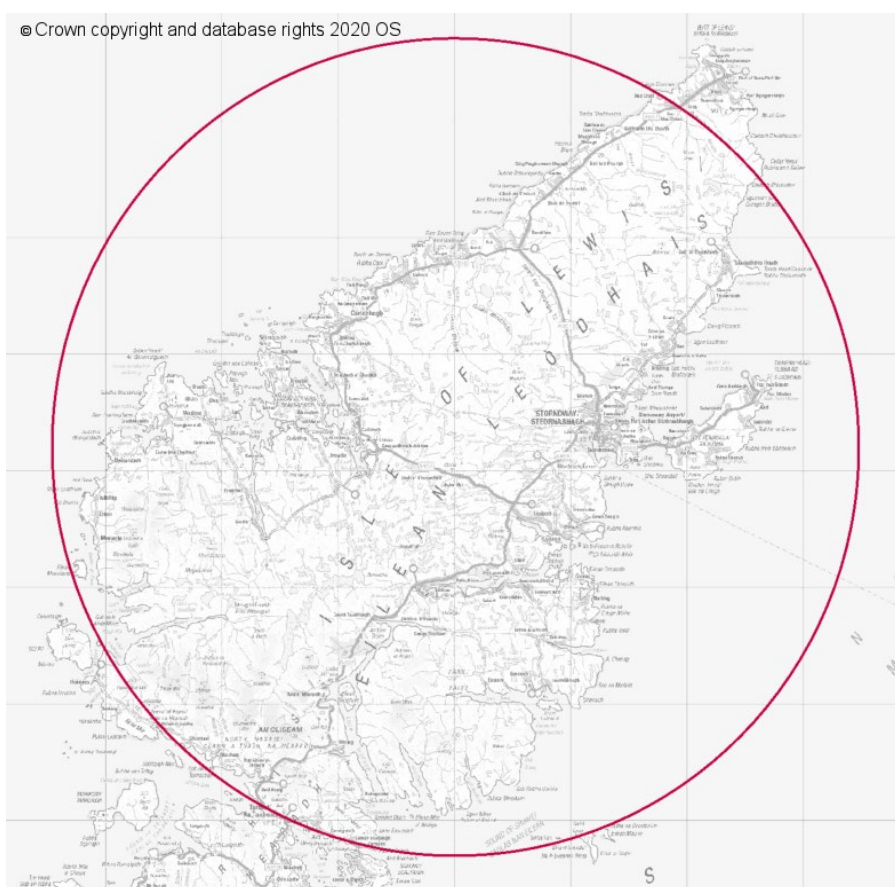
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Western Isles



Population within the advertised area: 15,607

Size of the advertised area (km²): 3,339 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: THREE services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): This area is presently unserved by local DAB

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): Not applicable.

Proposed frequency block: Block 9C

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

No restrictions towards other small-scale DAB areas are expected to be required.

Additional information:

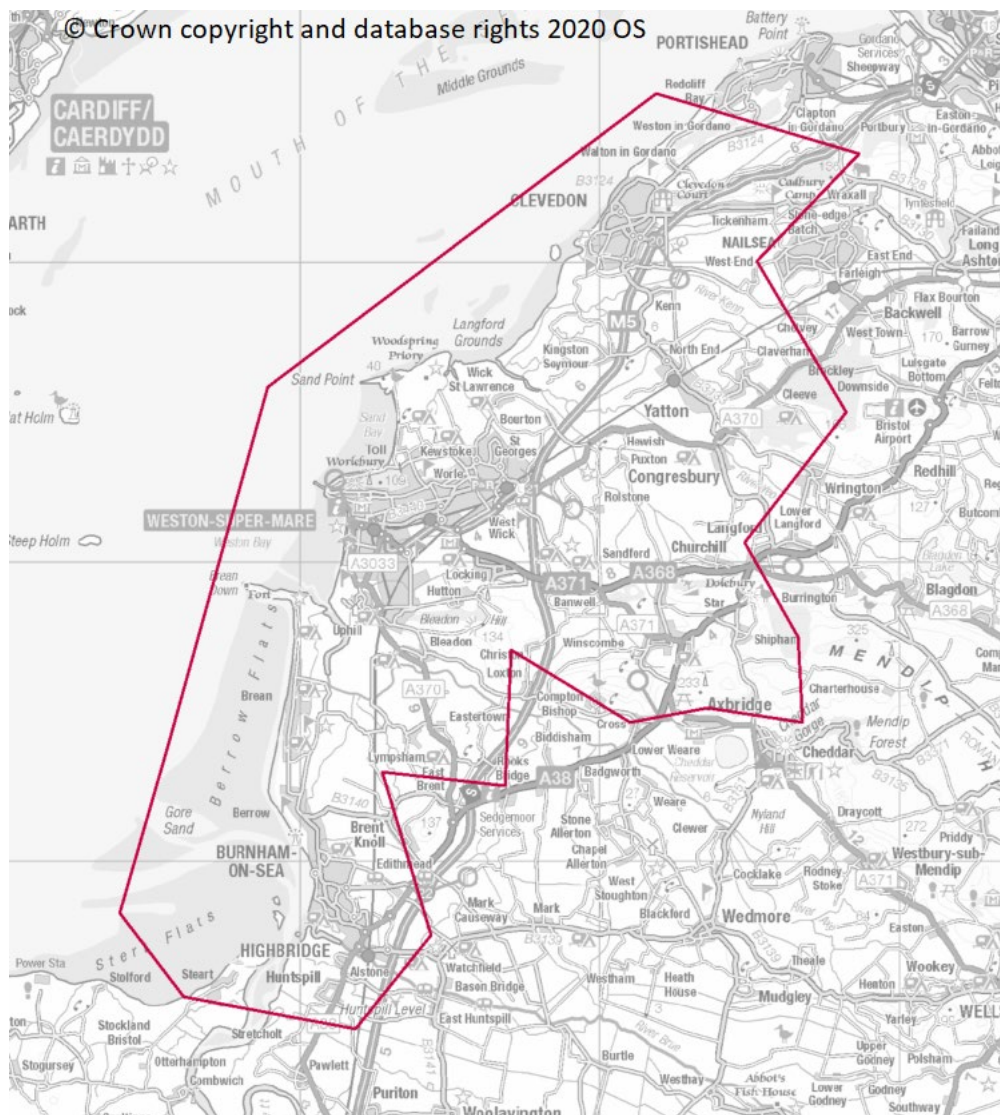
Ofcom does not expect there to be any significant incoming or outgoing interference issues between this and other small-scale DAB areas. Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

No incoming or outgoing international interference issues are expected for this service.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Weston-Super-Mare



Population within the advertised area: 134,741

Size of advertised area (km²): 404 km km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population): Bristol and Bath (901,506)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 112,259 (12.50%)

Local DAB service 2 (and licence area population): Somerset (522,893)

Local DAB service 2 population overlap (and percentage): 103,669 (19.83%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 9C

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas; Brecon, Cheltenham & Tewkesbury, Warminster, Devizes & Trowbridge, Poole, Purbeck & Wimborne, East Devon, Barnstaple & Bideford, and Llanelli.

Additional information:

As a result of proximity and topography, it may be challenging for applicants to maintain outgoing interference below the levels specified in the Notes of Guidance within the northern edge of the East Devon small-scale DAB area. Ofcom expects applicants to pay particular attention to keep any such interference to a minimum.

Within this advertised area, some isolated high ground around Bleadon Hill and to the east of Clevedon may be subject to higher levels of incoming interference from small-scale DAB multiplexes that may already be on-air or may come on air in the future.

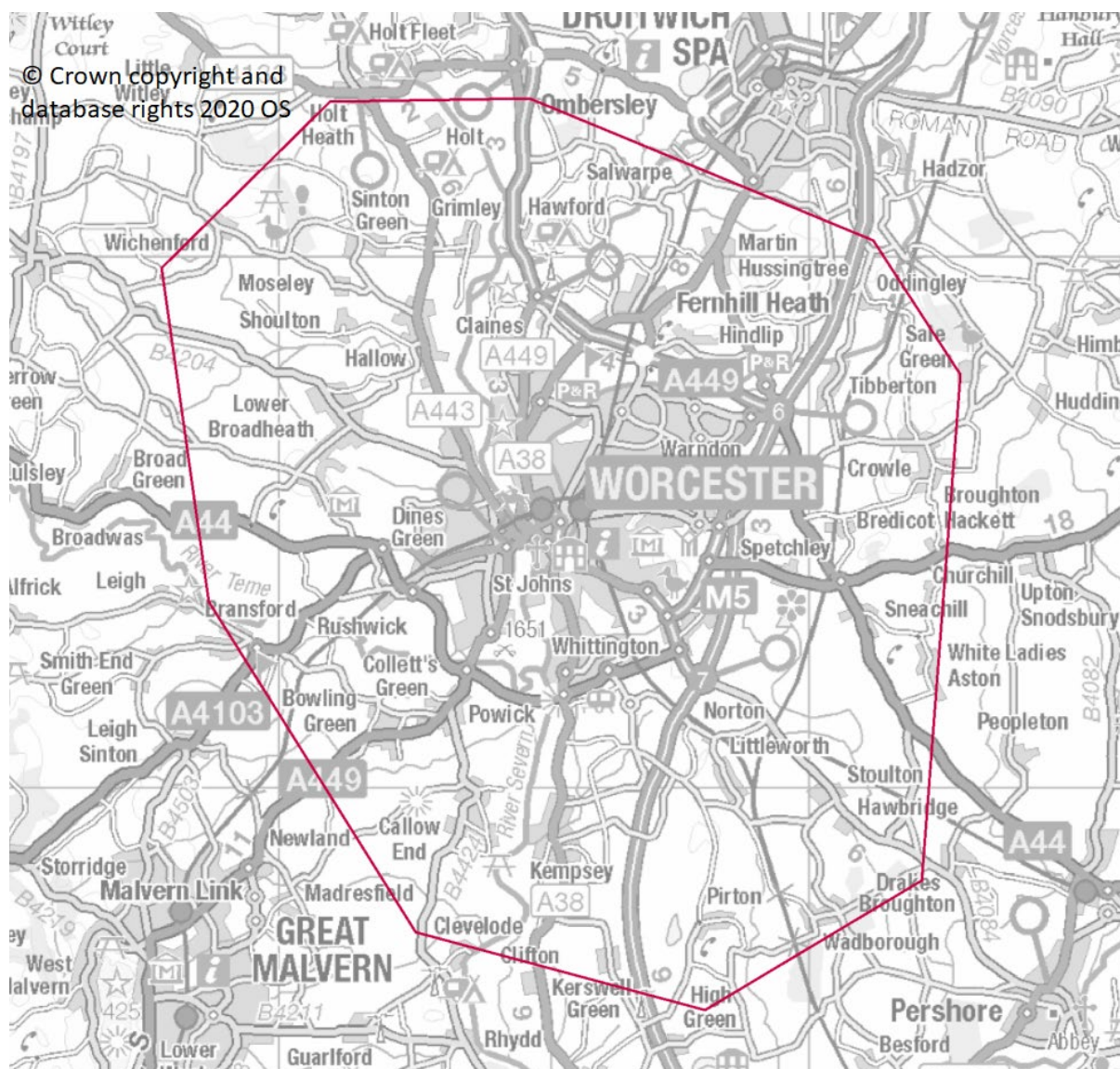
Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

Worcester



Population within the advertised area: 100,055

Size of advertised area (km²): 197 km²

Reserved C-DSP capacity: FOUR services

Local DAB service 1 (and licence area population) Hereford and Worcestershire (626,760)

Local DAB service 1 population overlap (and percentage): 100,055 (15.96%)

Proposed frequency block: Block 7D

Possible co-block small-scale DAB areas to be protected:

This service must not cause any significant interference above 38 dB μ V/m to the following small-scale DAB areas: Wolverhampton, Nuneaton & Hinckley, Northampton, Chippenham & Malmesbury, Monmouth, and South Powys.

Additional information:

If applicants wish to use the Great Malvern DAB transmitter site, Ofcom predictions indicate that a low power, low antenna height and/or directional antenna may be necessary to meet some outgoing interference criteria.

Ofcom does not expect this service to suffer any significant incoming interference from other UK small-scale DAB services.

Further details are given in Ofcom's Technical Policy Guidance for DAB multiplex licensees (paragraph 4.14 onwards).

International issues:

Ofcom does not expect this service to cause or be subject to any international interference issues.

See [advertised area data](#) and [population data](#) for this region.

3. How to apply

Submission of application form and fees

- 3.1 Applications for any of the small-scale radio multiplex licences advertised in this document must be made using the small-scale radio multiplex licence application form. The application form is divided into two parts: [Part A](#) (which we will publish on our website) and [Part B](#) (which will remain confidential). For applicants wishing to apply – subject to the ownership restrictions – for more than one small-scale radio multiplex licence, a separate application form will be required for each application.
- 3.2 Prior to completing an application, it is *essential* that applicants should read the [guidance notes on small-scale radio multiplex licences](#) carefully. In addition to providing further information about the questions we ask in the application forms, the Notes of Guidance provide a detailed guide to the small-scale DAB multiplex licensing regime as a whole, including matters such as the ownership restrictions, the statutory assessment criteria and how Ofcom will interpret these criteria in our assessment of applications.
- 3.3 The closing date for the receipt of completed small-scale radio multiplex licence application forms, and other required documentation, is **5pm on Tuesday 29 April 2025**. Both the confidential and non-confidential parts of the application form should be sent by e-mail to: smallscaleDAB@ofcom.org.uk. The subject line of the e-mail should be clearly labelled as “[**Applicant name**] application for **SSDAB mux licence: [licence area]**.” The deadline for receipt of applications will be strictly enforced, so you are advised to submit your application in plenty of time to allow for any potential delivery problems. You should receive an auto-response from smallscaleDAB@ofcom.org.uk confirming that your email 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 to leave a message for the Broadcast Licensing team, who will respond to your message as soon as possible. Please note that you will only receive one auto-response per day regardless of the number of e-mails you have sent to this address. Receipt of one auto response will confirm that we are receiving your e-mails.
- 3.4 An application fee of **£500** will be payable for each small-scale radio multiplex licence application submitted. This fee will not be refundable in any circumstances. Electronic bank transfer payments must be received in Ofcom’s bank account no later than five working days after the application form has been received by Ofcom. Failure to comply with these requirements may render the application liable to disqualification. Full details of how to make the application fee payment can be found in the ‘Application fee’ section in the [guidance notes on small-scale radio multiplex licences](#).

Submission of application form and fees

- 3.5 Ofcom will assess applications against both our general duties and the specific statutory assessment criteria (as reproduced and expanded upon in the guidance notes) and based upon the proposals presented in the completed application form. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the submitted application is complete, with every question

responded to (or, where appropriate, marked 'Not applicable') and all additional information required (such as the technical plan) provided in addition to the application form. Once received, no material amendments to the application may be made by the applicant nor any new material introduced, without the agreement of Ofcom. Ofcom will not agree to any such amendment which it considers would be unfair to any other applicant for the licence.

- 3.6 In the course of assessing applications, Ofcom may seek clarification and/or amplification of proposals in any application and require the applicant to provide us with additional information.
- 3.7 All of the non-confidential ('Part A') sections of the application forms that we receive will be published on our website following the closing date for applications. In assessing the applications, Ofcom may take into account any comments received from the public, which can be made to it at smallscaleDAB@ofcom.org.uk with respect to the applications submitted.
- 3.8 Our aim is to consider all applications for the advertised small-scale radio multiplex licences within six months of submission, although this is subject to, among other things, the number of applications submitted for all of the licences we have advertised in Round Seven.
- 3.9 Once a licence award decision has been made and applicants have been informed, Ofcom will publish the key determining factors which led to our decision.