



Centre for Justice and Liberty

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The Centre of Justice and Liberty
Represents the views of the UK Independent Christian Broadcasting Industry

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Ref: DCMS request for Broadcasters opinion on BBC proposals

Dear Tessa Jowell MP,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond with our views on behalf of the Independent Christian Broadcasters to the recent BBC digital radio proposals.

We welcome the developing world of digital radio and the opportunity to provide choice and diversity across the nation.

We question why the BBC can be granted and launch yet another 5 national radio stations while they already overshadow all other broadcasters nationally and locally and also duplicate their stations in other formats?

In view of the fact that the Christian media is currently banned from all local and national digital radio licences, we believe that it is unfair for the BBC again to be granted the lions share of national radio licences. There is no possibility for other broadcasters to compete. The BBC appear to be able to consult with the public, seek approval from the DCMS and take their absolute domination of the radio spectrum for granted.

We suggest that the BBC should have to compete in open tender for all their existing radio frequency licences. We suggest that no further frequencies should be made available to the BBC at the expense of their competitors.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Hargreaves

Patricia Hargreaves
Director