

**F.M. LOCAL RADIO SERVICE UNDERGOING CHANGE OF CONTROL:
REVIEW OF EFFECTS OF CHANGE OF CONTROL**
(in accordance with sections 355 & 356 of the Communications Act 2003)

KICK FM Lic No : AL 256-1

EXISTING FORMAT

Character of Service

A FAMILY-FOCUSED, INTENSIVELY LOCAL, BROAD MUSIC AND INFORMATION STATION FOR ADULTS AGED 25-54 YEARS, IN NEWBURY, HUNGERFORD, THATCHAM AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

Licensed area	Newbury area (as in Ofcom advertisement)
Frequency	105.6 MHz
Service duration	24 hours
Locally-made hours	At least 10 hours a day during daytime weekdays (must include breakfast). At least 4 hours daytime Saturdays and Sundays.
Local news bulletins	At least hourly at peaktime weekdays and weekends. Outside peak, UK-wide, nations and international news should feature.

Shared arrangements (if applicable)

Co-location	No Arrangements
Programme sharing	No Arrangements

REVIEW OF EXISTING PROGRAMME SERVICE

Scheduling and duration of any specific programmes or features required by the Format (e.g. specialist music shows, extended news bulletins, output for a specific ethnic minority, religious output, alternate language output etc).

None

Scheduling and duration of any such programmes or features not specifically required by the Format, but which the station is currently (or has until recently) been broadcasting regularly.

Disco Heaven (70's & 80's disco music) Friday & Saturday 6pm-12am.

Quantity of programming that is currently automated (if any), and when this is scheduled. (Note: information about the precise scheduling of automated sequences may be supplied to Ofcom in confidence).

*Monday to Friday 7pm – Saturday 6am
Friday 7pm – Saturday 8am,
Saturday 12 – 2pm,
Saturday 6pm – Sunday 8am,
Sunday 12 – 4pm,
Sunday 7pm – 6am Monday*

Quantity, scheduling, duration and nature of programming currently being broadcast that is syndicated and/or networked (if any).

Sunday 4pm – 7pm (the Big Top 40)

Arrangements currently in place for the compilation, production and presentation of local news.

One journalist on site in Newbury at Kick FM. Two further journalists based at Kestrel FM in Basingstoke (less than 20 miles away). Live local breakfast news, with drivetime being read from Basingstoke.

ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS OF CHANGE OF CONTROL IN RELATION TO:

i) local material and locally-made programmes:

It appears to Ofcom that the relevant change of control would not be prejudicial to the provision of local material or locally-made programmes.

ii) character of the service:

It appears to Ofcom that the relevant change of control would not be prejudicial to the character of service.

iii) quality and range of programmes included in the service:

This station is delivering its outline Format obligations.

The specialist programme being aired represents but one method of helping to provide choice as part of the overall delivery. It would not be prudent to tie the station to this one particular method or format schedule.

It appears to Ofcom that the relevant change of control would not be prejudicial to the quality or that range of programmes.

OFCOM'S CONCLUSION AFTER MONITORING/PLAYLIST ANALYSIS AND VERBAL SCRUTINY. SUGGESTED VARIATIONS TO THE LICENCE (IF ANY)

None

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