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## Small-scale radio multiplex licence

### Application form – Part A (public)

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

Wight Digital Radio CIC



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

Isle of Wight

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# 1. Overview

Wight Digital Radio CIC is a not for profit local group with a distinct, and strong, set of unique and key skills and experiences from well established local radio organisations, both commercial and community. These are businesses that have a deep local connection with the Isle of Wight, and a strong commercial track record.

We are delighted that our application includes support from all the well established local FM and community stations across the island, including: Isle of Wight Radio, Vectis Radio, Angel Radio and Sunshine Hospital Radio. Indeed, 65% of the radio stations listed in this application are based on our beloved Isle of Wight, making this a truly local bid which is backed by MP's past and present, and well-known Islanders such as Rob Gorham aka Rob da Bank (Camp Bestival Founder). In addition to the established island-based FM stations supporting our application, we have the support of existing island-based online stations such as Our Island Radio and a number of new players to radio on the island.

Our application also has a real focus on youth as we look to encourage young people on the Isle of Wight to fall in love with radio as we once did. Included in this application are Innovative, new and original youth stations, including one from the well-established and respected music college on the Island, Platform one, as well as the Islands main provider of apprenticeships HTP College. On top of that we would be providing access to semi-national or more regional stations such as Gaydio and Outreach Radio.

We are absolutely committed to growing radio listenership across the Isle of Wight, and this is clearly demonstrated by our proposed initial roster of stations, included with this application, which incorporates a combination of C-DSP and DSP stations. The whole package will bring much needed increased choice and variety to this wonderful island that we call home.

Given the peculiar topography of the island, we are fully aware that running an SSDAB multiplex will not be without its challenges, both financially and technically. On that second point, our partnership with island based Go-internet and its director Trevor Cook has ensured that we have access to over thirty good value island based transmitter sites, some of which have been utilised in this application.

Taking all this together we have the financial resources, the commercial track record and the local knowledge to make this multiplex a success. Our established local media brands will also play a key role in creating awareness to driving listenership, not only to the established stations but also to all the new entrants.

Our technical plan, developed with Digris, will initially cover 87% of the island's population within the advertised polygon, but we have aspirations to improve that coverage once established. Please see the table below:

<b>Isle of Wight</b>	<b>Adults 15+</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Advertised area population:	117,343	100.0%
Predicted coverage inside polygon:	102,542	87.4%
Predicted coverage outside polygon:	32,420	27.6%
Local DAB service 1. South Hampshire	1,203,463	100%
Predicted population coverage inside LRMS 1:	134,962	11.2%

This plan offers a broadcast solution that is both financially prudent and meets the specific and complex geographical technical challenges that the Isle of Wight presents. It also gives us great confidence that our technical resource has such deep SSDAB expertise in Rash Mustapha and Osman Sen-Chadun, as well as the support of two of our group's highly experienced engineers in Kelvin Currie & David Cunningham.

Our board, comprised of Allan Moulds, Kelvin Currie, Osman Sen Chadun & Rash Mustapha not only has considerable local knowledge and experience, a well-established network of contacts, both in the area and beyond, and a well documented history of supporting and encouraging local radio stations.

## 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 Please 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):

### Overview

The Isle of Wight has a varied topography which makes it challenging for radio coverage. Covering an area of some 380 square kilometres and having 92 km of coastline, with a chalk ridge, locally known as "The Back Of The Wight," running from the famous Needles in the west right across the island. This ancient and ever-changing geography due to coastal erosion gives rise to some particularly difficult areas to cover with DAB.

Given that The island's main population centres hug the coastline, with the exception of Newport, the centrally-placed capital of the island, many of these coastal towns are naturally at sea level. However, for a number of them, they have a steep decent from a much higher hinterland which gives rise to RF shadows at seal level if served from an inland transmitter. Particular examples of this are Ryde & Ventnor.

Additionally, the Isle of Wight has a large rural economy, most of which is based in the western part of the island. Consequently the larger part of the population is concentrated in the East of the island with the more rural villages being dispersed in "The West Wight."

The location of the major population centres, the need to meet internationally coordinated field strength limits, and also the requirement to constrain overspill into the mainland population whilst

also serving the island as evenly as possible with a 63dBuV/m signal (in an economically viable and sustainable manner) is a significant challenge.

After an extensive site evaluation exercise of more than 40 potential sites (including 34 Fixed Wire-less Access sites owned by Go Internet, our strategic partner which provides fast and ultrafast broadband) Wight Digital Radio CIC opted for a network formed of two main sites and three low-cost and low-power filler transmitters.

Our network has been planned to a tight budget and we feel we have struck a good balance between population and area coverage. The large number of sites which Wight Digital Radio CIC can access via Go Internet also provide a future pathway to improving coverage should the opportunity arise and if funds permit.

### **Main Transmitters**

From our central site, we plan to radiate an omnidirectional signal covering Newport and up to Cowes in the North, to Niton in the South. The second main transmitter, located in Bembridge Fort will cover much of the east. Although we have a provisional agreement with the National Trust's new lessees, we are aware of the status of the fort. While we are aware that other radio installations exist at the site, we have a contingency site further east along the same road in case any planning permission required takes longer than anticipated.

### **Filler Transmitters**

A filler transmitter at Tapnell (Tapnell Farm Park) will provide an initial service in the West. A second filler on Ryde pier (which will be established by replacing a defunct re-broadcast receiver antenna), will beam a low-power signal South to provide rugged reception in what would otherwise be a difficult area to serve.

Our third filler will be located in Ventnor, to serve what is otherwise a fairly isolated (and often overlooked) population of around 5,000. Although we had an agreement in principle for our preferred location, the holiday season conspired against us from receiving the formal written agreement prior to the application deadline. We therefore proposing an alternative for which we already had a written agreement to use. We do not anticipate encountering any issues in securing our preferred site, so we have provided the characteristics in **Annex 2 (A& B)** so the difference can be evaluated.

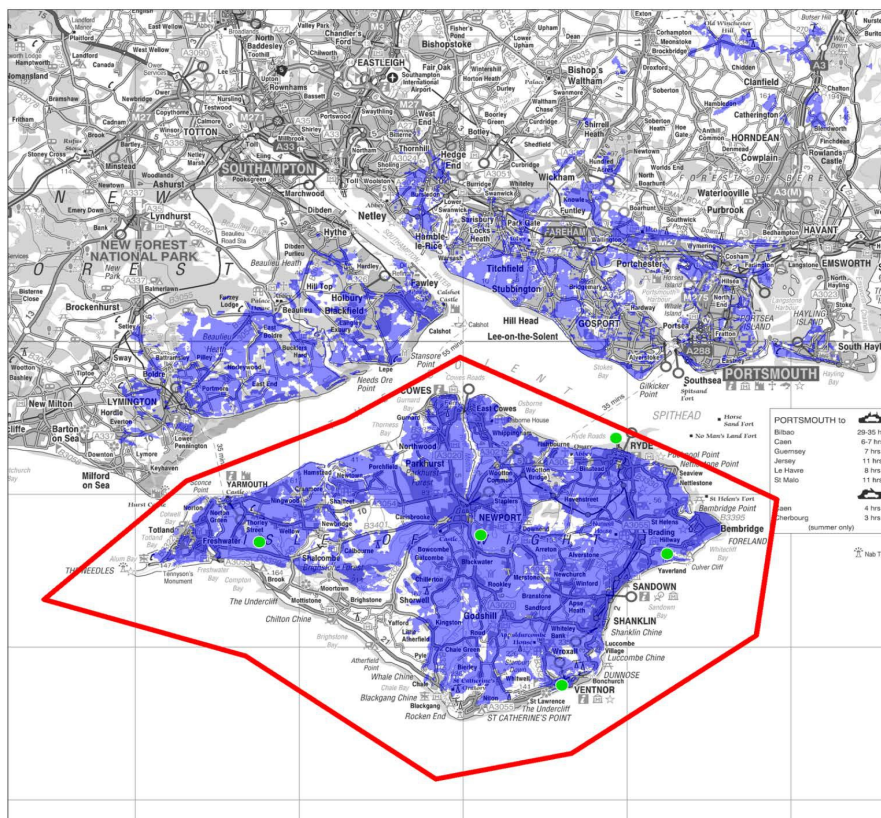
- 2.2 Please provide summary details of the sites required to achieve this coverage by completing the table below (add additional rows as required):

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Site name	NGR	Antenna height (m agl)	Antenna type proposed with bearing	New or existing antenna	ERP (W)
Newport Golf Club	SZ 51090 87300	12m	Co-Linear (ND)	New	200
Bembridge Fort	SZ 62464 86062	4m	Cardioid on 320 degrees ETN (D)	New	150
Ryde Pier	SZ 59350 93630	15m	3-element Uda-Yagi	New	20
Tapnell Farm	SZ 37590 86846	15m	Co-Linear (ND)	New	20
Ventnor B	SZ 56059 77477	10m	Co-Linear (ND)	New	10

- 2.3 Please provide below 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 dB $\mu$ V/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](#). In the interests of transparency, you **must** embed an inline map image within this form (even if you also submit a map as a separate supporting file).

Isle of Wight  
DAB Coverage Map



digris

63dB $\mu$ V/m



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.	HTZ Communications Version 2023.3 Release 1488
Detail the terrain model used by the software and its resolution.	ATDI SRTM 2003 30 x 30 spatial sampling
Detail the ground cover (clutter) data used by the software and its resolution.	ATDI 50m precision Extracted from satellite photography 1999-2001
What propagation algorithm has been used?	Deygout 94-2 with coarse integration Fresnel Zone fraction 0.8 ITU-R P.1546 for international coordination checks.
Where multiple sites are proposed, describe what methodology has been used to assess the network (SFN) gain	Power sum
If these predictions have not used Of-com-provided population data, state what population data has been used and its source.	2011 Census
Have your predictions been generated by a commercial organisation? If so, by whom?	Rash Mustapha Digris Ltd

## 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):

Wight Digital Radio CIC

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

15682643

- 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:

The Riverside Centre  
The Quay  
Newport  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 2QR

- 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 <sup>1</sup>	Country of residence	Other officerships held (and nature of the business concerned)	Other employment
Allan Moulds (representing Total Sense Media Limited)	Sussex Media Centre, Unit 4, Regent Business Centre, Jubilee Road, Burgess Hill RH 15 9TL	UK	SUSSEX LIVING LIMITED - magazine publishing (05000909), Director EJA PROPERTY LIMITED - property development (09207317), Director HEXAD PROPERTY LIMITED - property development (08715706), Director BEACON MEDIA LIMITED - magazine publisher (07599020), Director ISLE OF WIGHT RADIO HOLDINGS LIMITED - media holding company (06976483), Director ISLE OF WIGHT RADIO LIMITED - radio station, Isle Of Wight(02330384), Director SOVEREIGN RADIO LIMITED - radio station, Eastbourne (03276705), Director and Secretary	Employed by Total Sense Media as CEO

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

			<p>ARROW FM LIMITED - radio station, Hastings (03249198), Director and Secretary</p> <p>SPLASH FM LIMITED - radio station, Worthing (04144486), Director and Secretary</p> <p>TOTAL SENSE MEDIA LIMITED - media holding company (05419601), Director and Secretary</p> <p>THE LETTING PEOPLE LTD - letting company (04512842), Director and Secretary</p> <p>MEDIA SOUND LIMITED - radio station, Mid Sussex (03191639), Director and Secretary</p> <p>EJA HOLIDAY PROPERTY LIMITED - property development (13120521), Director</p> <p>ABILITY PROMOTIONS 2022 LIMITED - magazine publisher, Living with Disability Magazine (13910090), Director</p> <p>CENTRAL SUSSEX DIGITAL RADIO LIMITED - SSAB application company (14824982), Director</p> <p>DIGITAL RADIO WEST SUSSEX LTD - SSDAB application company (14825188), Director</p> <p>HASTINGS DIGITAL RADIO CIC - SSDAB application company (14930875), Director</p> <p>OLD WESLEYAN CHAPEL FREEHOLD LIMITED - freehold management company (13735275); Director</p>	
Kelvin Milton Currie	The Riverside Centre The Quay Newport Isle of Wight PO30 2QR	UK	<p>Vectis Radio CIC Radio Broadcasting Company (07028730) Director.</p> <p>The Vectis Radio 4Ps Training School CIO Educational Charity. Trustee (Reg Charity No 1189607)</p> <p>Wight Digital Radio CIC SSDAB Application Company Director (15682643)</p>	

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Rashid Mustapha	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	<p>Brighton &amp; Hove Digital Radio CIC Radio Broadcasting Company Director (14823245)</p> <p>Opendab Brighton &amp; Hove C.I.C. Radio Broadcasting Company. Director (05636096)</p> <p>North London Digital Ltd. Radio Broadcasting Company Director (14487625)</p> <p>Hastings Digital Radio CIC Broadcasting Company Director (14930875)</p> <p>East Sussex Digital Radio LTD Dormant Company Director (14371874)</p> <p>MK Digital Media LTD Radio Broadcasting Company Director (13705276)</p> <p>DIGRIS LTD Wireless Telecommunications Director (13611584)</p> <p>OPENDAB C.I.C. Radio Broadcasting Company Director (12061279)</p> <p>Wight Digital Radio CIC SSDAB Application Company Director (15682643)</p>	
Osman Sen-Chadun	31 Field View Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO53 4LJ		<p>Outreach Radio Ltd. Director. (13399472)</p> <p>Friends of outreach Radio CIC Director (12698477)</p> <p>Winchester DAB Ltd. Director (15209110)</p>	

			Basingstoke DAB Ltd. Director (15209915)	
			Southampton Digital Radio Ltd. Director (1430011)	
			UK Radio Portal Ltd. Director (14033706)	
			Wight Digital Radio CIC SSDAB Application Company Director (15682643)	

## Details of participants

- 3.6 Please 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
Total Sense Media Ltd	N/A			35
Vectis Radio CIC	N/A			35
Osman Sen-Chadun	N/A			15
Rashid Mustapha	N/A			15
<b>Comments</b>				

## 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 (or 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.)

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	
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question 3.8				
Full name of participant	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
N/A				

## 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	N/A
A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a political nature, or which is affiliated to such a body	No	N/A
A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a religious nature; <sup>2</sup>	No	N/A
An individual who is an officer of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	N/A
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	N/A
An advertising agency or an associate of an advertising agency	No	N/A

## 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):

a) Is the applicant a current licensee of Ofcom?

**No** (delete as appropriate).

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

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to sections 3 to 5 of Ofcom's [religious guidance note](#) for details on how we determine the eligibility of religious bodies to hold certain broadcasting licences.



**No** (delete as appropriate).

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

**Yes** (delete as appropriate).

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

**No** (delete as appropriate).

- 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** (delete as appropriate).

- 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** (delete as appropriate).

- 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** (delete as appropriate).

- 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** (delete as appropriate).

- 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** (delete as appropriate).

- 3.14 If the response to any of the questions (a) to (i) in 3.13 above is 'yes', please provide the details, expanding the table where necessary:

	Licence number(s) (if known)	Details
(a)	DP102388BA/1	More Radio and More Radio Retro - Allan Moulds is a director of the company that owns this radio licence
(b)	AL100286BA/4	More Radio Worthing - Allan Moulds is a director of the company that owns this radio licence
(c)	AL000278BA/1	More Radio Eastbourne - Allan Moulds is a director of the company that owns this radio licence
(d)	AL1000761BA/1	More Radio Hastings - Allan Moulds is a director of the company that owns this radio licence
(e)	AL000263BA/1	More Radio Mid Sussex - Allan Moulds is a director of the company that owns this radio licence
(f)	AL00044BA/2	Isle Of Wight Radio - Allan Moulds is a director of the company that owns this radio licence
(g)	CR101286BA/3	Vectis Radio – Kelvin Currie is a director of the company that owns this radio licence.
(h)	DP103631BA/3	Outreach Radio Limited - Osman Şen-Chadun is a director of the company that owns this radio licence.
(i)	DS103951	Winchester DAB Limited - Osman Şen-Chadun is a director of the company that owns this radio licence.
(j)	DS103872	Basingstoke DAB Limited - Osman Şen-Chadun is a director of the company that owns this radio licence.
(k)	DP104981BA	SSDAB Info. Rashid Mustapha is a director of the company that owns this radio licence.

- 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".

N/A

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

**No** (delete as appropriate).

If yes, please provide the following details:

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

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## 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.

Wight Digital Radio CIC has agreed a clear funding and expenditure plan, and can demonstrate its ability to establish the proposed service, providing a working capital surplus at launch. Should there be a downturn in the radio or general market, our shareholders are committed to increase their loan commitments. The procurement of assets will be funded primarily by director & stakeholder loans, repayable Over the licence period.

As a CIC we believe there will also be the opportunity to benefit from both grants and gifts, but for prudence sake we have not factored these into our funding.

The costs set out below have been taken from a line-by-line listing of components and other areas of cost. This in turn has been validated against a detailed quotation from Digris, and our combined and considerably business knowledge and operational experience.

The proposed coverage from our 5 transmitter sites (2x main, 3x relay) will be 85%, with an aspiration to add additional relay sites when financially viable. The proposed five transmitter solution will require capitalisation of £65k. We therefore believe it is prudent to establish the service on that basis and avoid any chance of over promising and under delivering.

### Capital Expenditure

Core and ancillary equipment - £41,000  
Installation and commissioning - £4,500  
Planning network, sites and equipment -£7,000  
Rigging - £7,500  
Pre-operational costs - £1,500  
Total Cap Expenditure - £ 61,500

As you can see below, this is being funded through loans to Wight Digital Radio CIC from Total Sense Media, Kelvin Currie and Jonathan Bacon, totalling £65k. This leaves remaining working capital of £3,500 to which we are adding the upfront payment of fees for Isle of Wight Radio (£2,310) Isle of Wight Radio Retro (£2,310) and Vectis Radio (£2,310), giving us total working capital of £ 10,430

Our annual operating costs include site rent, power consumed, connectivity, technical and other support, encoder and multiplexer management, contract maintenance, ongoing legal & professional services, licensing and insurance. With our group being made up of a number of well-established broadcasters and infrastructure providers with resources across the Isle of Wight, we are able to benefit from economies of scale and existing human resources covering management, administration and technical.

Through our partnership with Go-Internet and utilising transmitter sites from our existing FM network, we have initially chosen five highly effective transmission sites with a total rental that is extremely low. It is this network of low-cost transmission sites that has allowed us to tackle the islands challenge terrain and still ensure that our operating costs are financially viable.

More detailed operating costs are supplied in Annex 9.

Estimated total operating cost: £ 21,900 per annum.

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

- a) Share capital - £0
- b) Loan stock - £0
- c) Leasing/HP facilities (capital value) - £0
- d) Bank overdraft - £0
- e) Grants and donations - £0
- f) Other (please specify) £65,000 provided as loans from

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 (£)
Mr Jonathan Bacon	N/A	10000
Total Sense Media Ltd	N/A	50000
Mr Kelvin Currie	N/A	5000

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 confirmed.

## 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.)

**Allan Moulds**, will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the multiplex as Operational Director, and is supported in this with the well established resources at Total Sense Media Limited. Allan is the Chief Executive Officer of Total Sense Media Limited, a group that has been delivering local radio for over twenty years. He founded the company following a successful corporate career as Production Director for international fashion brands Jaeger and Viyella.

Total Sense Media's origins date back to 2001 when its first radio station Bright FM went on-air. Following that successful launch, Allan oversaw a series of acquisitions that transformed the business into the small group it is today. Those acquisitions included: Splash FM, Sovereign Radio, Arrow FM, Isle of Wight Radio, The Beacon Magazine, Sussex Living Magazine, Magnet Magazine and Living with Disability Magazine.

Nearly all of those businesses were loss making at acquisition, and it's Allan's financial and commercial skill that is credited with merging and transforming those companies into the consistently profitable and debt free group that exists' today.

Allan's entrepreneurial skills have also been key to the group developing a multimedia offering: Total Sense Media has launched several new digital and events brands, giving the group a unique and clear USP locally.

Allan is also Founder & CEO of The Letting People Limited, who now trade as Mansell McTaggart Lettings across Sussex, as well as several companies that specialise in property development.

**Kelvin Currie** who is also a director of Vectis Radio CIC and a Trustee of the Vectis Radio 4Ps Training School charity, has many years of experience in telecommunications and audio engineering having been in BT for over 25 years, finishing as a senior engineer in the BT Disability unit before moving into the disability technology sector for the Royal National Investiture for Deaf Prole (RNID). This gives kelvin an unique perspective on technology & accessibility whilst maintaining a good business perspective on this area.

Kelvin put all this expertise, along with his RF engineering knowledge gained from many years as a licenced Radio Amateur when moving local community station, Vectis Radio, from on-line only to a fully licenced FM Community station. Kelvin handled every aspect of the change from the initial application form right through to obtaining and overseeing the construction of the mast and antenna; installing the transmitter and facilitating the commissioning of the transmitter by Ofcom's engineer. Kelvin is responsible for the day to day technical maintenance of Vectis Radio and as a trainer/Trustee of the associated 4ps training school has a particular interest in making radio accessible for those with additional needs.

**Digris Ltd**, our technical partner, has a decade of experience operating DAB Single Frequency Networks. They will be responsible for all day-to-day technical aspects of the multiplex. Digris Ltd.'s proprietary intelligent router platform, located at each transmitter site, continuously monitors ensemble multiplexer timestamps and network parameters; it establishes a secure Virtual Private Circuit back to the ensemble multiplexer headend and is able to compensate for conditions such as severe network jitter, and it also provides automatic switching to backup infrastructure in the event of a fault, or maintenance. Digris Ltd. has invested in specialist DAB test equipment which is required to accurately measure all parameters needed to optimise the SFN. RF probes can be installed in the network so that these essential parameters can be monitored 'off-air' remotely.

It is able to offer this comprehensive service due to the operational maturity and economy of scale established by highly experienced personnel in Switzerland. New DAB networks are simply added to the existing Ensemble Multiplexing and Network Monitoring Systems that have been established in the UK, and with full backup and engineering support provided from the Network Operation Centre in Switzerland, to provide constant cover.

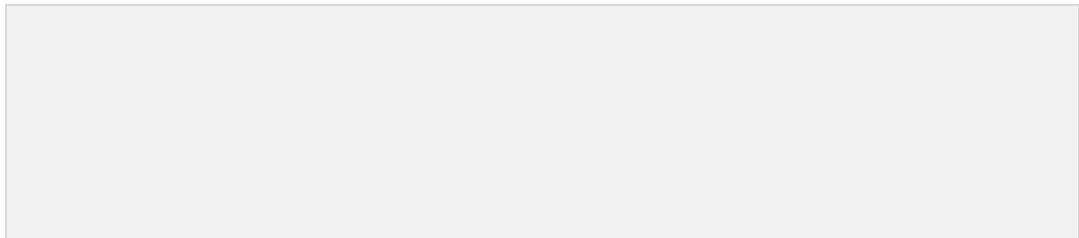
- 3.22 Please provide details of who will be carrying out the installation and on-going maintenance of your multiplexing / transmitter equipment (or the name of your proposed transmission and multiplex provider if you intend to use a third-party organisation for these services). Please also briefly state 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	Digris Ltd. Go Internet Ltd. Total Sense Media.	Digris Ltd is a UK organisation but in mainland Europe Digris AG, a Swiss company, is a leader in the establishment and operation of what is known in the UK as small-scale DAB.  Founded in 2012, Digris specialises in DAB, operating a network of transmitters throughout Switzerland, France and the UK. The company currently operates 43 multiplexes (with many being transmitted from synchronous networks) and 104 DAB transmitters ranging in power from 6 Watts to 50 kW ERP.
Ongoing maintenance of the	Digris Ltd.	See above

transmission equipment		
Installation of the Multiplexing equipment	Digris Ltd.	See above
Day-to-day technical management and maintenance of the multiplexing equipment (if different from response to question 3.28 above)	Digris Ltd.	See above

## 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: **12 Months.**



- 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. **Please see Annex 9.**



## 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.

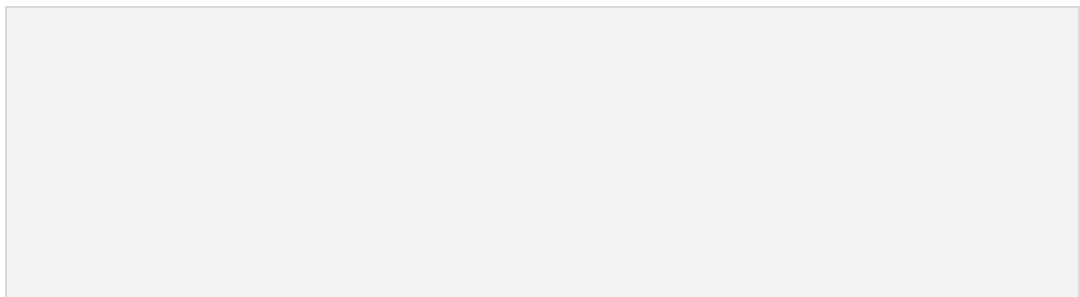
Note that we do not require applicants to provide us with a full line-up of services they intend to provide, or details about the content of those services.

### Involvement of C-DSP providers

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

**No** (please delete accordingly)

- 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:



- 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):

Vectis Radio CIC CR101286BA/3 Kelvin Currie, Director 35% Voting

## 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
Vectis Radio	Proposed C-DSP	The Island's award-winning Community Station, supporting the local community since 2017 Signed Heads of agreement
Isle of Wight Radio	Proposed DSP	The island's favourite radio station, 'on-air' for 34 years and still achieving a weekly reach of over 30%. Signed Heads of Agreement.
IOW Radio Retro	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Swinging Sixties	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Wight House Radio	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Outreach Radio	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Outreach Dance	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Our Island Radio	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Regency Radio	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Storm FM	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Sunshine Radio (IOW)	Proposed DSP	The Islands hospital radio station, supporting patients and staff at St. Mary's Hospital, Newport. Signed Heads of Agreement.

Angel Radio (IOW)	Proposed C-DSP	First broadcast to the island in 1999, on air full time since 2007. Much loved by its loyal band of older listeners. Signed Heads of Agreement.
Platform One	Proposed C-DSP	The Leading music college, looking to inspire young people through a new music led radio station. Signed Heads of Agreement.
Gaydio	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
HTP Apprenticeship College	Proposed DSP	A new youth station run by students and used to develop skills & confidence.
Hot Gold	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Xtra Hot	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement
Electronic Music Station (Service Provider's Details disclosed to Ofcom)	Proposed DSP	Signed Heads of Agreement

## 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.
- For example, how have you sought to engage a broad range of prospective service providers including those not directly involved as participants in the application and those who have decided not to proceed to express an interest or agree heads of terms at this stage, and how have you sought to make prospective service providers aware of your proposals and potential terms for carriage?

In the months prior to the announcement by Ofcom of this round of SSDAB licences, it was recognised by the two established broadcasters on the Isle of Wight (IoW Radio & Vectis Radio) that the announcement would be during 2024 and it would be a stronger bid if the two organisations put in a joint bid.

Once the Ofcom announcement was public, the new joint organisation, Wight Digital Radio CIC, issued a press release (see annex 7) to all the local media, and nationally via Radio Today, explaining the details and inviting interested parties to contact via the newly-established website if they were considering being a content provider.

Examples are here:

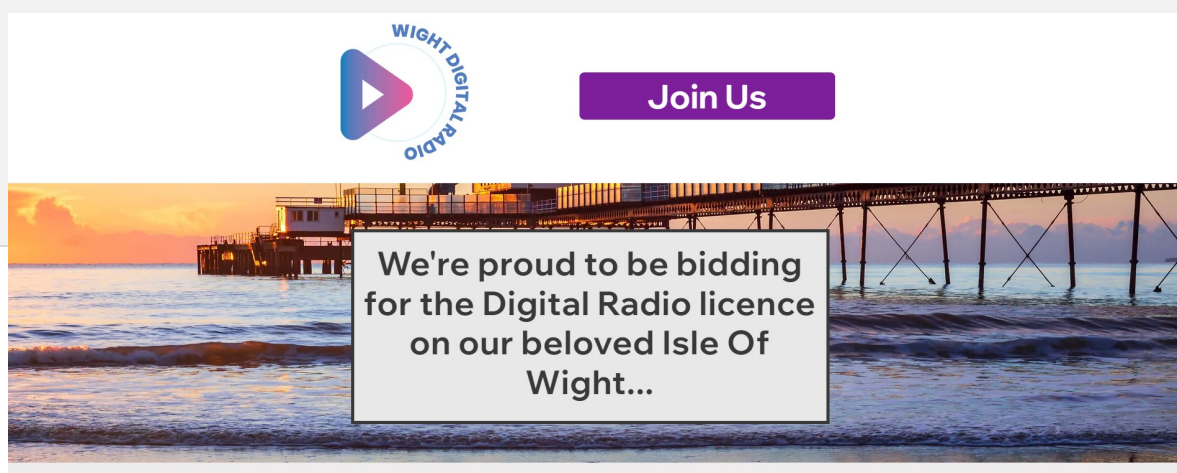
<https://onthewight.com/new-20-channel-isle-of-wight-dab-radio-licence-aim-of-cic/>

<https://www.islandecho.co.uk/radio-stations-join-forces-in-bid-for-dab-licence-on-the-isle-of-wight/>

Inclusion in Radio today also made all the socials for that publication and was copied world-wide via the “World DAB” page.

This raised a higher than expected number of enquiries and after sharing our application website - <https://www.wightdigitalradio.co.uk/> - (see screenshot below), pro-actively contacting all those from The Isle of Wight and adjoining mainland areas, who might be interested in expanding their radio services and numerous meetings with interested parties, significant numbers of them have joined us for this application.

We have also been in touch with the IW Council education department, HTP training, the IW College Media department, and circulated information to all Island Schools via the council.



We have also received publicity and support from local MPs, as a result of which we've received additional interest from other radio services. Copies of correspondence from Bob Seely MP (previous MP for the Isle of Wight) Richard Quigley, newly-elected MP for Isle of Wight West, can be found in Annex 7 (Fair and effective competition). In addition there is documented support from Rob Da Bank in that annex.

Dealings with all prospective DSP providers have been open and transparent. The Heads of Terms form is standardised with common terms and shows indicative prices for carriage whether these are discounted carriage costs for qualifying community radio (C-DSPs) or more standard charges for locally-based DSPs. The details of our terms of carriage can be in Annex 7 (Fair and effective competition).

Additionally in Annex 7 there is correspondence with Angel Radio IW regarding their potential involvement with a similar bid for this DAB multiplex. We include this information for the purposes of transparency but note that Angel Radio IW have signed heads of Terms with us.

Finally in Annex 7 is correspondence with some other potential content providers who ultimately didn't return a Heads of Terms.

## 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:**

KELVIN MILTON CURRIE

**Date of application:**

17TH JULY 2024

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

Company director.

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