

**A.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)

**GOLD BIRMINGHAM, WOLVERHAMPTON AND COVENTRY**

**AL 076-2, 118-2 AND 021-2**

**EXISTING FORMAT**

**A CLASSIC POP HITS STATION, WITH LOCAL INFORMATION, TARGETED PRIMARILY AT 35-54 YEAR-OLDS IN THE XXX AREA**

Local hours and news - as per Format :

Locally-made hours	At least 4 hours a day during daytime weekdays. (In all, at least ten hours of weekday daytime programming should be broadcast from within England)
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 required

*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.*

Wed 10pm to midnight – 60s classic  
Thursday 10pm to midnight – At the Hop (50s rock n roll)  
Sun 10pm-midnight – At the Hop (50's Rock n roll)

*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).*

All local weekday shows (12:00-16:00) are voice tracked except London, where we have a live presenter. London feeds all the national platforms, Sky, Cable, on-line etc.  
Overnights (Mon-Sat 00:00-06:00 & Sun 00:00-07:00) are fully automated with no voice tracked presenter.

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

All programming is networked except for locally made hours 12:00-16:00 weekdays. During the football season these stations provide live commentary of local teams.

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

Locally compiled and presented on Gold with production from Global Radio

**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.

Specialist programmes being aired are vehicles for part of the Format delivery. In themselves they represent but one method of providing a wide-ranging programme choice as part of that 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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