

See attached consultation list

Media

26th of June 2013

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Hearing on the question of extension or tender of program licenses for commercial local radio operators on the FM band

According to the media agreement for 2012-2014, the FM band will be shut down at the end of 2019, if by mid-2018 it is found that at least 50 per cent of radio listening is via digital platforms.

According to the media agreement, and based on the decision to shut down the FM band, a consultation will be held with the radio industry etc. about interest in either maintaining existing local FM radio licenses until switch-off time or to tender FM transmission opportunities when current licences expire at the end of 2015 until FM switch-off time.

Media spokesmen have consequently decided that once current program licences in the local radio sector have expired on 31 December 2015, two separate schemes will be created for commercial and non-commercial local radio, as the current actual allocation of frequencies between commercial and non-commercial local radio is to be maintained.

This hearing concerns only the tender or extension of program licences for commercial broadcasting. Program licences for non-commercial program services will be offered during 2015.

On this basis, stakeholders are requested to consider the following two scenarios:

1. Extension of FM community radio licences for commercial local radio until FM switch-off time, i.e. end of 2019.
2. Tender for commercial FM broadcasting opportunities, whereby the licences issued will be valid only from the end of 2015 and up to the FM switch-off time, i.e. end of 2019.

It should be noted that any total extension of local radio licenses is based on the assumption that it is not precluded by EU-legislation.

The Danish Agency for Culture requests that any comments arising from this should be received no later than 12.00 noon on 15th of August 2013.

Any questions and comments for the hearing should be sent - preferably electronically to:

The Danish Agency for Culture

Media

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Kind regards

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