

18 June 2021

FM broadcasting services band in the Perth RA1 licence area - Options paper

Response from 6KCR (Kalamunda Community Radio)

Thank you for inviting our comments on this paper.

We have been aware for at least the past two years that 6KCR may be required to change our frequency from 102.5FM to 88.9FM so the content of the Options Paper was no surprise to us. We understand that Option 1 is the preferred option.

Our 102.5FM frequency is widely known in our broadcast area and beyond and is recognised as our call sign by those listening to our streaming service on the internet. Changing to a different frequency will therefore have major cost, technical and logistical implications for us and we would not be able to do this without considerable financial assistance, ideally covering the full cost.

We see digital radio as the future of broadcasting and would be pleased to go down this route as well.

As regards technical requirements, we would need to erect a 40-metre monopole mast with antenna and arrange suitable accommodation for our transmitter equipment. Without this our broadcast penetration would be severely curtailed at a lower frequency which would greatly disadvantage us.

As regards the logistics of this change, we would need an extensive advertising campaign in the press, through the local Councils and many other bodies. On air, we would need to be able to broadcast a message on the 102.5FM frequency for at least a year advertising our new frequency. The changes to digital broadcasting frequencies currently taking place across Australia, which are causing so much confusion amongst listeners, is a prime example of how not to do this.

We look forward to hearing further about the outcome of this Option Paper.



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