



Councillor Keith Aspden
Leader, City of York Council

Councillor Darryl Smalley
Executive Member for Culture,
Leisure and Communities

West Offices
Station Rise
York YO1 6GA

Date: 29 May 2020

Email: cllr.kaspden@york.gov.uk;
cllr.dsmalley@york.gov.uk

Ms Dee Ford
Managing Director
Bauer Media Group UK
Castle Quay
Castlefield
Manchester
M15 4PR

Letter sent electronically

Dear Ms Ford,

We wanted to take this opportunity to write to you on behalf of the local community here in York. We have signed the petition to keep Minster FM broadcasting in our city and North Yorkshire. The petition, which now stands at over 4,000 signatures, calls for the station to be kept on air and staff to be kept in employment.

Minster FM plays a vital role in our community and will be a significant loss for many residents who rely on it, including for the latest local news. This service has been particularly important during recent flooding in York and throughout the Covid-19 pandemic where Minster FM has been an important platform to communicate the latest guidance and updates on action taken to respond to the crisis locally and nationally.

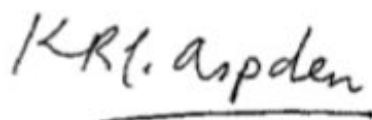
Losing Minster FM will have an impact far beyond the loss of employment, and source of quality local news for residents. For decades Minster FM has contributed to our community spirit in York, for example through the Minister FM Local Hero Awards which every year recognises the achievements of our unsung community champions. Likewise, the summer road shows, community fairs and Christmas lights switch-on have been local traditions for years. We know that Minster FM have always

taken their responsibility to York's network of local businesses very seriously and have been fantastic at promoting other local services and businesses throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

It was disappointing that despite concerns from local community radio stations across the UK, at the time of writing there has been no intervention or package of support from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and so we have copied our concerns to the Members of Parliament for York Central and York Outer.

We are urging the leadership at Bauer Media Group UK to reconsider this decision and consider the full implications for our local community in York.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Keith Aspden in black ink, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Cllr Keith Aspden
Leader of the Council

Handwritten signature of Darryl Smalley in black ink.

Cllr Darryl Smalley
Executive Member for Culture, Lesiure and Communities

C.C: Rachael Maskell MP, Julian Sturdy MP