# Nation Radio's FM takeover severs Romford's Time 107.5 after abrupt handover



Time 107.5FM, the small Romford-based station that for more than two decades pitched its output at east London and west Essex listeners, was taken off air on 1 August 2025 and replaced on the 107.5FM frequency by Nation Radio London after an acquisition by Nation Broadcasting. According to industry reporting, the handover took place at 2pm that day and marked Nation’s first FM foothold in the capital. The change has prompted dismay among long-standing listeners and former staff who say the move severs a locally rooted service many relied upon for community news and events.

Listeners and presenters described the end as abrupt. Neil Andrews, who had presented the station’s breakfast show for 18 years, told the Romford Recorder that he “didn’t even get a chance to say goodbye” after finishing his programme on the morning of 1 August and learning within hours that FM broadcasting would cease. Industry coverage confirms the station’s final scheduled output concluded that afternoon and was immediately replaced by networked Nation programming.

The companies involved framed the transaction as a straightforward commercial decision. Lyca Media II’s chief executive, Raj Badhan, said the group would continue investing in its south Asian services and that “our time as owners of 107.5 is ending,” while Nation’s founder Jason Bryant described London as an “increasingly important market” and said the FM acquisition offered growth potential for the Nation Player app and wider services. Those statements, published by the buyer and reported by trade press, present the takeover as strategic; Nation has said the move will allow it to broadcast on FM alongside DAB and streaming, but industry sources note that the FM output will largely carry networked shows rather than locally produced programming.

The loss of locally produced shows has already attracted political interest. Romford’s MP Andrew Rosindell has written to media regulator Ofcom to challenge the sale and seek clarification on whether licence conditions protecting local content have been observed, and he has tabled written parliamentary questions. Rosindell told constituents he was concerned that community-focused broadcasting had been “significantly reduced” following the takeover and wants certainty for listeners in Havering and the surrounding area.

Time 107.5’s own archive and schedules underline why the change has cut deep. The station, which billed itself as a Romford-centred service, ran presenter-led shows, local news bulletins and community features for years and kept studios in the town centre. Industry reporting also cited recent RAJAR audience figures in assessing the commercial logic behind the sale, noting that while Time’s reach was modest by London standards it had a loyal local following — a point critics say cannot be measured solely by audience share figures.

In response to the sudden closure of the FM service, a number of former Time presenters have moved quickly to recreate a local outlet. Several, including Neil Andrews alongside presenters such as Dean Kayne and Adam Ravenscroft, have launched All Hit Radio as an independent online station, positioning it as a way to preserve presenter‑led shows and a connection with the local audience left without an FM home.

Local press and community groups have framed the rebrand as a tangible loss for Havering’s civic life. Coverage in the local media documented listeners’ surprise and the sense that a familiar local voice has been replaced by network programming aimed at a broader London audience. Supporters of the old station say the transition highlights wider tensions about consolidation in UK radio and the balance between national efficiency and local public value.

Nation and Lyca were approached for comment in national reporting and both issued brief statements about the transaction; Nation has emphasised the commercial opportunity of an FM presence in London, while Lyca stressed it would continue to invest in its core south Asian services. Where companies describe the move as strategic growth, critics — presenters, local MPs and listeners alike — frame it as the end of an era for a station that built its reputation on community connection rather than network scale.

### 📌 Reference Map:

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[2]](https://www.radiotoday.uk/2025/08/time-107-5-to-close-today-as-nation-radio-london-takes-over-2/), [[3]](https://www.nationplayer.com/nation-radio-london/london/), [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.radiotoday.uk/2025/08/time-107-5-to-close-today-as-nation-radio-london-takes-over-2/), [[7]](https://thehaveringdaily.co.uk/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.radiotoday.uk/2025/08/time-107-5-to-close-today-as-nation-radio-london-takes-over-2/), [[3]](https://www.nationplayer.com/nation-radio-london/london/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.rosindell.com/news/romford-mp-challenges-ofcom-over-loss-local-radio-programming), [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.time1075.net/), [[2]](https://www.radiotoday.uk/2025/08/time-107-5-to-close-today-as-nation-radio-london-takes-over-2/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[6]](https://www.allhitradio.com/), [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 7 – [[7]](https://thehaveringdaily.co.uk/), [[5]](https://www.time1075.net/), [[4]](https://www.rosindell.com/news/romford-mp-challenges-ofcom-over-loss-local-radio-programming)
* Paragraph 8 – [[3]](https://www.nationplayer.com/nation-radio-london/london/), [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15007963/Beloved-radio-station-axed-fans-heartbroken-cancelled.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.radiotoday.uk/2025/08/time-107-5-to-close-today-as-nation-radio-london-takes-over-2/> - RadioToday reports that Time 107.5 FM was acquired by Nation Broadcasting and closed on 1 August 2025, with Nation Radio London taking over the 107.5 FM frequency at 2pm. The piece explains the move gives Nation its first FM presence in London and notes recent RAJAR audience figures comparing Time and Nation Radio. It outlines the station’s history, including earlier owners and rebrands, and quotes Nation founder Jason Bryant and Lyca Media II CEO Raj Badhan on the transaction. The article confirms the end of Time’s locally-focused programming on FM and the start of networked Nation content for London listeners.
3. <https://www.nationplayer.com/nation-radio-london/london/> - NationPlayer’s Nation Radio London page announces that Nation Broadcasting secured the 107.5 FM frequency in London by acquiring Time 107.5 from Lyca Media II Ltd, enabling Nation Radio London to broadcast on FM alongside DAB and streaming. It states the move gives Nation its first FM presence in the capital and quotes founder Jason Bryant on the market opportunity, plus Lyca’s Raj Badhan expressing well wishes. The page lists programming and recently played tracks, noting RAJAR figures and the intent to promote the Nation Player app. It frames the acquisition as strategic growth for Nation across London and South East.
4. <https://www.rosindell.com/news/romford-mp-challenges-ofcom-over-loss-local-radio-programming> - Andrew Rosindell’s constituency website reports he has written to Ofcom to challenge the sale and rebranding of Time 107.5 FM to Nation Radio London, expressing concerns that locally produced content and community-focused broadcasting have been significantly reduced. The post, dated 6 August 2025, outlines his request for clarity on licensing compliance and the rights of the affected communities, and notes he has tabled written parliamentary questions. A copy of his letter to Ofcom is attached to the page. The article frames the closure as a loss for Romford and Havering listeners who valued local news and programming and community engagement.
5. <https://www.time1075.net/> - The official Time 107.5 FM website presents the station as a Romford-based local broadcaster serving east London and west Essex, listing presenters, schedules and contact details. It highlights shows such as Neil Andrews’ breakfast and rock programmes and details community news items and events the station covered, demonstrating its local focus. The site notes the station’s address at The Liberty Shopping Centre and invites listeners to stream live. Historical posts and schedules show long-standing local involvement and programming, underlining why listeners and presenters were surprised and upset when the FM service closed in 2025 and was replaced by networked output.
6. <https://www.allhitradio.com/> - All Hit Radio’s website confirms that several former Time 107.5 presenters, including Neil Andrews, Dean Kayne and Adam Ravenscroft, have joined forces to continue broadcasting via an independent online station. The site describes All Hit Radio’s playlist strategy, presenter biographies and how former Time staff aim to preserve local connection and music variety. Contact and listen-live details are provided, and the page proclaims the station’s commitment to 'all the hits' with a broader playlist and fewer repeats. The launch is presented as a direct response to Time’s closure and the desire to serve loyal listeners left without farewell programming online.
7. <https://thehaveringdaily.co.uk/> - The Havering Daily reports the final broadcast of Time 107.5 FM on 1 August 2025, marking the end of twenty-two years of community-focused programming for Havering and surrounding areas. The piece describes how the station’s output, long centred on local news, events and presenter-led shows, was replaced by Nation Radio London after the FM frequency was acquired. Local reaction, including surprise from listeners and concerns about reduced local content, is noted. The item emphasises the station’s role in the community and frames the rebrand as a significant local loss, while pointing readers to coverage and official statements from those involved.