

Alness Community Association Ltd

Incorporating Alness and District Times, Ross FM and the Alness Civic & Heritage Centre
Alness and District Paths Network Group

102-106 High Street, ALNESS, Ross and Cromarty IV17 0SG

Tel: 01349 883005, Fax: 01349 884224, E-mail: joan@alnesstimes.freeserve.co.uk

The Alness Community Association Ltd is registered in Scotland (No 128982) and has charitable status

05/05/04

Soo Williams
Ofcom
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 9HA

Dear Soo,

This is the views held by the members of Ross FM on the Community Radio Ofcom Consultation.

Question 1... To keep an overview in respect of the licensing procedure, keep an open mind on suggestions from radio groups and take into consideration the differences between city, urban and rural areas.

Question 2... We agree with the proposed policy on spectrum and coverage area.

Question 3... We agree that Community Radio should be applicant-led. Will there be an application fee that has to be paid at the time of the application?

Question 4... This question caused some consternation among the members who were unhappy that commercial radio operators might automatically object to any application by a community radio group that they felt might be a threat to them. This may have to be done on a case by case basis.

Question 5... This should be done on a case by case basis as community stations will have different ways of raising money.

Question 6... Have no problems with Ofcoms proposals for submission of applications.

Question 7 ... We agree with the proposals for applications for the first year.

Question 8 ... We suggest that priority be given to stations with a wide range of interests rather than a single interest station, also priority should be given to stations that have done successful Rsl's that meet the Community radio criteria.

Question 9 ... We agree with the proposal for listing the key commitments in the licence.

Question 10 .. Definitely agree. In our area we have had to do this if we were going for local authority grants.

Question 11 .. Produce a questionnaire that can be distributed by the radio staff or post office that can be returned to a central point, not necessarily the radio station.

Hope this helps,
Kind regards

Alan Kinghorn
Company Secretary
Alness Community Association Ltd.

Scotland in Bloom Premier Award Winner 1997, 1998 & 2000
Premier Reserve Champion 1998 & 2002
Britain in Bloom Winner 1998 & 2000, 2002 (gold medal)
Nations in Bloom Finalist 1998
World in Bloom Winners 1999