



# Community Radio: Annual Report on the Sector

Statement

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## Section 1

# Executive Summary

- 1.1 Community radio stations are a new type of not-for-profit radio service, designed to operate on a small-scale and to deliver social gain to one or more communities. The legislation to enable community radio services to be licensed was introduced in 2004, and the first station launched in November 2005.
- 1.2 Ofcom has now licensed 191 stations over two rounds of licensing. 131 of these are now broadcasting, nine have either decided not to launch or have handed their licence back and the remainder are preparing to start broadcasting. The second round of licensing is ongoing - Ofcom is currently considering 43 applications from the southeast of England (excluding London and other areas within the M25) and will shortly invite applications from groups based within London or other areas inside the M25.
- 1.3 Community radio serves a wide range of communities; the majority serve a general audience in either an urban area (18%) or a town / rural area (41%). However, many others serve smaller communities of interest including those aimed at minority ethnic groups (14%), young people (9%) and religious groups (7%). 148 of the stations awarded a licence are in England, 14 in Northern Ireland, 20 in Scotland and nine in Wales.
- 1.4 The legislation governing community radio sets out the characteristics of community radio services and defines social gain. Each station has a set of 'key commitments' which forms part of its licence and details how the station will meet these characteristics and deliver social gain, including for example its core aims and commitments in respect of training, access and accountability.
- 1.5 The legislation also puts a limit on the amount of income that can be generated from on-air advertising and sponsorship. For most stations this limit is 50%; however, two stations have a lower limit (25% and 15%) and a further 16 stations are not allowed to receive any income of this type. The additional restrictions are in order to protect commercial services with whose coverage areas the community services overlap.
- 1.6 Each community radio station that has been broadcasting for more than a year is required to complete an annual report; this report details how a station has performed against its 'key commitments' and also identifies its sources of income and expenditure, in part to ensure that the station has met the legislative requirements on funding. For the period May 07 – Apr 08 Ofcom received reports from 67 stations (a further 39 stations launched their service during this period, and so are not included in this report).
- 1.7 The average station's income is around £101k, although the median figure (the mid-point in the distribution of stations' incomes) is significantly lower at £65.5k, suggesting a small number of stations earn significantly more than the majority. Stations serving particular communities are more likely to have a higher income - those serving general audiences in urban areas (£110k) and those serving minority ethnic communities (£124k) tend to have more income than the sector average.

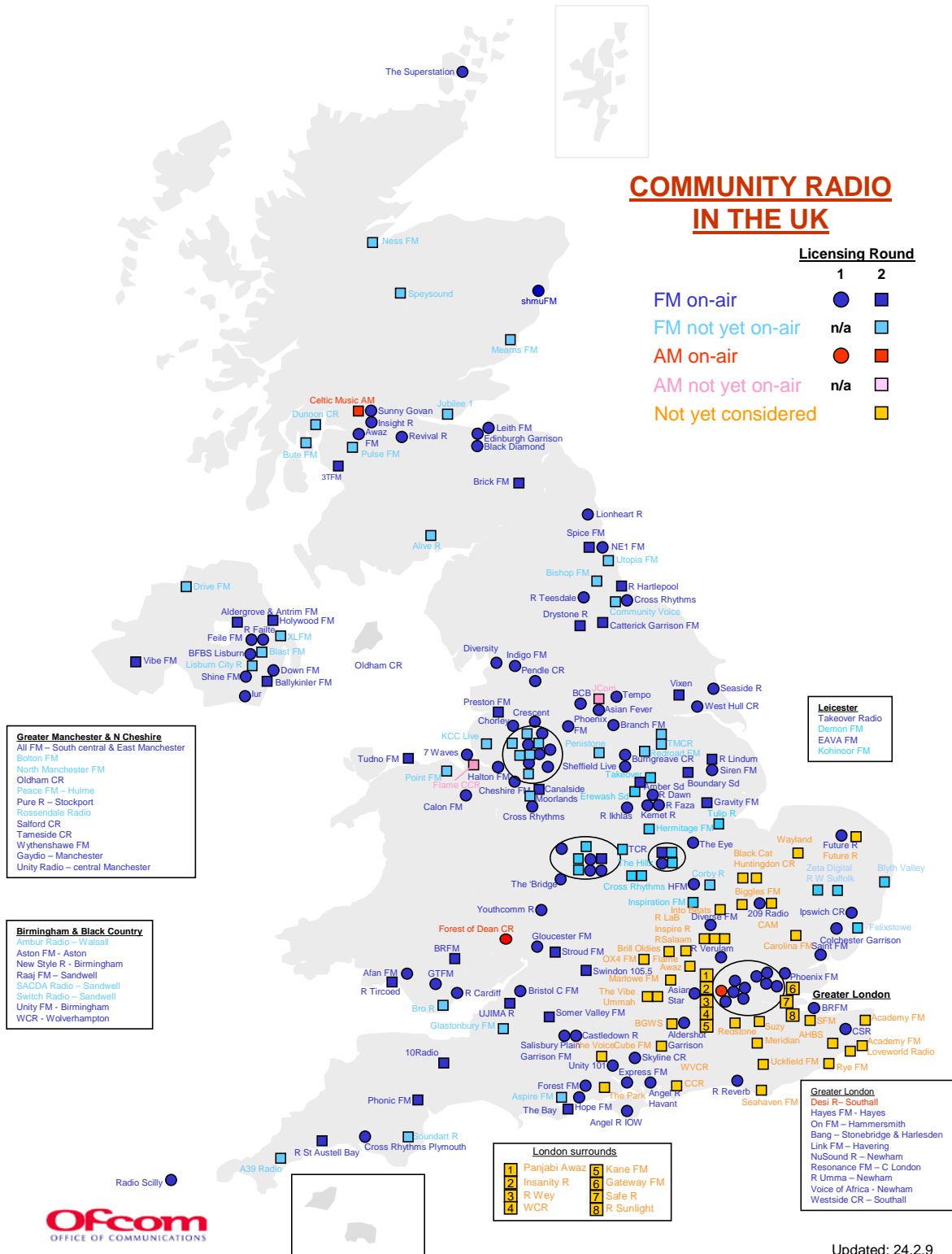
- 1.8 The most significant type of income for the sector is grant funding, which accounts for around 45% of the total. Income from on-air advertising or sponsorship is the next most important, accounting for around 18% of the total (although 10 stations in this year's report did not take advertising either as a matter of choice or policy (eight stations) or because they were forbidden by legislation from doing so (two stations) due to an overlap with a small commercial service serving fewer than 150k adults).
- 1.9 Public sources of funding – usually in the form of grants - account for around 53% of the sector's total income. Local authorities are a major source of public funding, accounting for around 16% of the sector's total income whilst the Community Radio Fund, administered by Ofcom on behalf of the Department for Media, Culture and Sport, accounts for around 7% of the sector's total income.
- 1.10 Community radio stations are generally meeting their costs: the average station costs £101k to run. Again, the median figure is notably lower at £64.5k. The most significant area of expense is staffing, which accounts for around 51% of the sector's total costs.
- 1.11 On average each community radio station has 74 volunteers who give a combined total of around 214 hours volunteer time a week per station (just under 3 hours for each volunteer a week). Speech forms around 33% of daytime output, and each station broadcasts around 81 hours of original output a week, most of this output is live and the vast majority is locally produced.
- 1.12 Following receipt of individual annual reports, Ofcom has had further dialogue with one station with regards to it receiving more than 50% of its income from on-air advertising. Ofcom is satisfied that the station in question has taken appropriate steps to remedy this and proposes no further action. Ofcom has also had further dialogue with one station regarding a significant failure to perform against its key commitments; following the procedure set out in our document 'Regulation of community radio services' available at ([www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/crregulation/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/crregulation/)), we are now working with the station to resolve the matter and expect to issue an update on our website shortly.

## Section 2

# Background

- 2.1 Community radio forms a distinctive third tier of broadcasting services alongside the BBC and commercial radio. Its distinctiveness is enshrined in the Community Radio Order 2004 (available at [www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/20041944.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/20041944.htm)) which sets out certain requirements for community radio, including that services are non-profit-distributing, are provided for an identified target community, deliver defined 'social gain' objectives, invite access and participation in the service, and are accountable to their target communities.
- 2.2 Ofcom first invited applications for community radio licences in September 2004, and finished this initial round of licensing in May 2006. There were 194 applicants in the first round and 107 groups were awarded a licence, with the first station launch in November 2005.
- 2.3 For the second round of community radio licensing, Ofcom invited applications on a region-by-region basis. The UK was split into eight regions, starting with southwest England and south Wales in late 2006 and concluding with London and other areas within the M25 in mid-2009.
- 2.4 As of February 2009, Ofcom has awarded 84 groups a licence in the second round out of 119 applications considered, and a further 43 applications are under consideration. Of the 167 second round applications received so far by Ofcom, 138 were from English stations, 13 from Scotland, nine from Northern Ireland and seven from Wales. Ofcom expects to invite applications for services in the final region – London and other areas within the M25 – in Q2 2009.
- 2.5 In total Ofcom has offered licences to 191 community radio stations; of these 131 have been issued – the stations are on air - with 51 preparing to launch (community radio stations have up to two years to launch from the date that they are offered a licence).
- 2.6 Six stations decided not to launch and a further three handed their licence back after they had commenced broadcasting. In general, the reasons for a community radio service failing relate to funding: a number of groups were hit by unexpected cash flow issues, and others had placed excessive reliance on a single major source of funding. One group had a very small core group of participants - which may have impacted upon its ability to attract wider volunteer input and funding – whilst another group suffered from the failure of its parent organisation. Although community stations have up to two years to launch from the point of licence award, both successful and unsuccessful groups have found that this timeframe still requires prompt action and adequate planning in order to launch a valuable and sustainable service.
- 2.7 Further information on the licensing process for community radio is available on Ofcom's website at [www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/).
- 2.8 As figure 1 shows, community radio services are dispersed across the UK, with 148 stations licensed in England, 14 in Northern Ireland, 20 in Scotland and nine in Wales.

Figure 1: map of community radio in the UK



- 2.9 Each community radio station defines its own target community (or communities) when it applies for a licence. The majority of stations seek to serve a general audience within their broadcast areas, but a sizeable minority are targeted at a specific community within a geographic area (see figure 2 below).

**Figure 2: community radio - types of community served**

Type of community served	Number of licences awarded <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of licences awarded	Number on-air	Number completing annual reports 2007/08
General audience – town/ rural	79	41%	47	17
General audience – urban <sup>2</sup>	35	18%	26	16
Minority ethnic group	27	14%	23	12
Young people <sup>3</sup>	17	9%	8	6
Religious focus	13	7%	10	8
Military	9	5%	9	5
Other				
<i>Older people</i>	4	2%	2	1
<i>Arts</i>	3	2%	3	1
<i>Disability</i>	1	>1%	1	1
<i>Health promotion</i>	1	>1%	1	0
<i>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender</i>	1	>1%	0	0
<i>Scottish music</i>	1	>1%	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>67</b>

- 2.10 There is a wide variation within some categories of community of interest stations; for example, around half (14) of the stations aimed at minority ethnic communities are aimed at one or more communities with a south Asian heritage. Other services are aimed at Afro-Caribbean communities (6), African communities (2), have a strong Irish focus (2), target the Jewish community (1) or minority ethnic communities generally (2).
- 2.11 It is also important to note that the boundaries between different types of community of interest may be fluid; for example three stations serving Muslim communities are classified as 'religious' in figure 2 above but are also likely to have appeal to particular minority ethnic communities, whilst Chorley FM –classified in the 'young people' category in the figure - serves 15-25 year olds and also Chorley's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities.
- 2.12 Furthermore, many of the stations serving broad geographic communities have a particular remit to serve subgroups within those communities – the Community Radio Order 2004 requires that community radio stations seek to serve 'underserved' communities – and we would estimate that at least half of the 'geographic' stations

<sup>1</sup> Including licences that have been handed back.

<sup>2</sup> We have defined an urban station as one based in a town/ city of more than 175,000 people and / or one that is contiguous to a large conurbation.

<sup>3</sup> Includes services aimed at children and those in further or higher education, as well as young people more generally.

have some programming aimed at one or more minority or disadvantaged group. Generally speaking, the more urban a station the more likely it is to have output aimed at specific sub-groups within the community (reflecting the greater diversity within their broadcast areas) – that said, a number of the rural stations have programming for groups such as migrant farm workers.

- 2.13 Indeed, with some ‘general audience’ stations, much of the output is split between different interest groups. Therefore the headline numbers for community of interest stations given above underestimates the true amount of programming and off-air activity aimed at people who fall into one or more of the sub-groups identified in figure 2, or other groups, such as the economically disadvantaged.
- 2.14 For example, BCB has a wide range of programming aimed at the diverse communities of inner city Bradford. 66 of its 672 hours of broadcast output over a four-week period had a strong focus on minority ethnic communities, including 24 hours in languages other than English.
- 2.15 Similarly, many of the community of interest stations offer programming that has a broad appeal beyond their main target community.

### **The population served by community radio:**

- 2.16 Based on our computer modelling of population data and signal reception, Ofcom estimates that around 6.5m adults (8.1m people) are able to receive<sup>4</sup> a community radio station broadly aimed at them – that is, either a general audience service or one that appeals to a particular community of interest of which they are a member.
- 2.17 We must stress that this is an approximate figure, as there is a wide variation in the concentration of spectrum use across the UK and figures for the size of communities of interest are estimates only.
- 2.18 Therefore under 15% of the population is able to receive a community radio service on FM/ AM aimed at them; this, combined with the fact that Ofcom has had to restrict FM applications in a number of urban areas (including most of London) because of a shortage of available frequencies, suggests that demand is still a long way from being fulfilled.
- 2.19 The exact parameters for assessing the coverage of community radio services are set out in Ofcom’s document ‘The licensing of community radio’ ([www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/prsand/l\\_cr\\_state/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/prsand/l_cr_state/)). Further details of how Ofcom defines technical coverage can be found in “Coverage: Planning Policy, Definitions and Assessment”, which is available on our web site at: [www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/car/coverage/pp\\_def/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/car/coverage/pp_def/).

### **Community radio reporting requirements:**

- 2.20 Each community radio station has a set of ‘key commitments’ which forms part of its licence. This is the equivalent of the ‘Format’ included in every analogue commercial radio licence, but is far more detailed, including, as well as the nature of the

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<sup>4</sup> via FM/ AM – many services are also available online

programme service to be provided and its core aims, details of the licensee's commitments in respect of the delivery of social gain, training, access and accountability.

- 2.21 Community radio licensees are required to submit an annual report on progress and delivery against their key commitments. We have a template for the annual report which licensees complete and a separate pro forma for financial information.
- 2.22 Licensees must submit the pro forma financial report each year, so that we can judge whether they have stayed within the funding limits set by the legislation (see below). The report includes information such as major sources of income and expenditure. A failure to adhere to the funding limits will be a breach of a licence condition. Ofcom will also check to ensure that licensees have not received more than 50% of their income from any one source. For the period May 07 – Apr 08 Ofcom received reports from 67 stations.
- 2.23 Most community radio services are allowed by the legislation to generate up to 50% of their funding from on-air commercial sources (spot-advertising and sponsorship opportunities taken together).
- 2.24 Ofcom has the discretion to set a lower limit to the amount of income that can be derived from on-air advertising or sponsorship; Ofcom does this when it believes that licensing a service may prejudice unduly the economic viability of another local service. Two stations have such restrictions in their licences (Garrison FM in Catterick with a 25% limit, and KCC Live in Knowsley with a 15% limit).
- 2.25 A small number of community radio services (16 at present, of which eight<sup>5</sup> are on-air) are banned from obtaining any income from such sources in order to protect the interests of nearby small-scale commercial stations with between 50,000 and 150,000 adults (aged 15 +) within their Measured Coverage Area (MCA) – this ban is also imposed by the legislation. It is likely that, were this restriction not in place, other community groups would apply for a licence. There are currently 63 commercial stations protected by this legislation.
- 2.26 A further legislative restriction, implemented to protect very small-scale commercial stations, is that Ofcom is prohibited from licensing any community radio services which would have a coverage area that would overlap by 50% or more (in terms of population) with the MCA of an existing commercial radio station containing 50,000 adults (aged 15+) or fewer. There are currently 25 commercial services of this size.

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<sup>5</sup> One station, 209 Radio in Cambridge, was originally subject to such a restriction preventing it from receiving income from on-air advertising and sponsorship, however, changes to the MCA of the local commercial service with which it overlapped meant that this restriction was removed.

## Section 3

# Community Radio Stations' Income

- 3.1 Community radio stations receive income from a wide range of sources: as noted earlier the legislation specifically requires diversity of income, with rules limiting the amount of income from any one source to 50% and capping the amount of income from on-air advertising or sponsorship for most stations at 50%.
- 3.2 Again, as discussed earlier, some stations – those that overlap with small-scale commercial services serving between 50,000 and 150,000 adults –are forbidden from taking such on-air advertising (16 at present) and Ofcom also has the power to impose a limit of less than 50% if it believes a higher limit would prejudice unduly the economic viability of another local service - two stations have such restrictions, one with a limit of 15% and the other at 25% (neither station was required to complete a financial return for this report).
- 3.3 Community radio services must also operate on a non-profit distributing basis, ploughing any excess revenues back into the operation of the service.
- 3.4 Ofcom asked each station completing an annual report to report on its total income, broken down by category. Figure 3 below shows the average income across the sector for the period May 07 – Apr 08, it is important to note that there are variations depending on the type of station and its location, and these variations are discussed later.

## Average income

- 3.5 The average income for the sector was £101k, but this average disguises a wide range; incomes range from £6k to £397k, with 16 stations reporting an income greater than £150k whilst 26 stations had an income of less than £50k. The median income (i.e. the value at the mid-point in the distribution of incomes) in the sector was substantially lower, at £66.5k, suggesting a small number of stations generate a significant proportion of the sector's income.
- 3.6 As shown in figures 3 and 4 below, the most important types of income for the sector are grants (45%), on-air advertising and sponsorship (18%), donations (12%) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs) or service contracts (11%). (SLAs allow community radio stations to engage with relevant statutory organisations for the delivery of output of social benefit, in return for funding.)
- 3.7 Although Ofcom provides guidance notes, we acknowledge that different stations *might* take different approaches to the allocation of particular types of income in specific categories. This is particularly the case for grants, SLAs and funding for education/ training, where one payment could conceivably be classified in any of these categories and therefore we consider the figures within these categories to be close approximates (however we are confident that the figures for overall income are robust).
- 3.8 In the previous reporting round (2006/07), Ofcom sought reports from a smaller number of stations, and although the total was not large enough to be able to robustly identify trends year-on-year, the data appears to be consistent with last year.

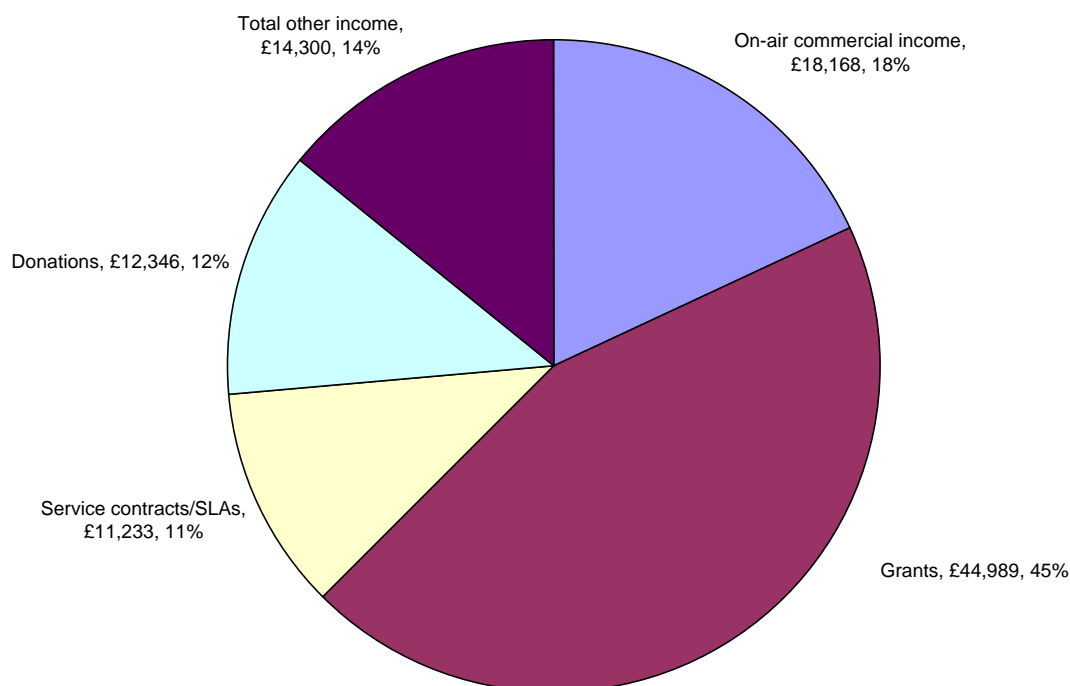
At this stage it is too early to tell what the impact of the recession will be on community radio finances in the year 2008-09.

**Figure 3: detailed breakdown of income in the community radio sector 2007/08**

<b>Income type</b>	<b>Sample total<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>% of sector income</b>	<b>Sector average</b>	<b>Average for stations in receipt of income type</b>
Total income	£6,769,394	100%	£101,036	n/a
On-air commercial income (advertising and sponsorship)	£1,217,254	18%	£18,167	£21,355 (57 stations)
Off-air advertising and sponsorship	£159,333	2%	£2,378	£9,958 (16 stations)
Grants	£3,014,251	45%	£44,989	£51,089 (59 stations)
Service contracts/SLAs	£752,598	11%	£11,233	£44,270 (17 stations)
Fundraising and events	£114,676	2%	£1,712	£4,587 (25 stations)
Donations	£827,192	12%	£12,346	£25,066 (33 stations)
Education and training	£207,133	3%	£3,092	£9,006 (23 stations)
Membership schemes	£44,129	1%	£659	£4,012 (11 stations)
Broadcast access fees	£30,123	<1%	£450	£6,025 (5 stations)
Merchandising	£10,064	<1%	£150	£1,258 (8 stations)
Interest received	£28,347	<1%	£423	£1,134 (25 stations)
Other income	£364,295	5%	£5,437	£9,587 (38 stations)

<sup>6</sup> For the 67 stations included in the sample.

**Figure 4: average station income**



**The impact of community radio legislation – on-air commercial income:**

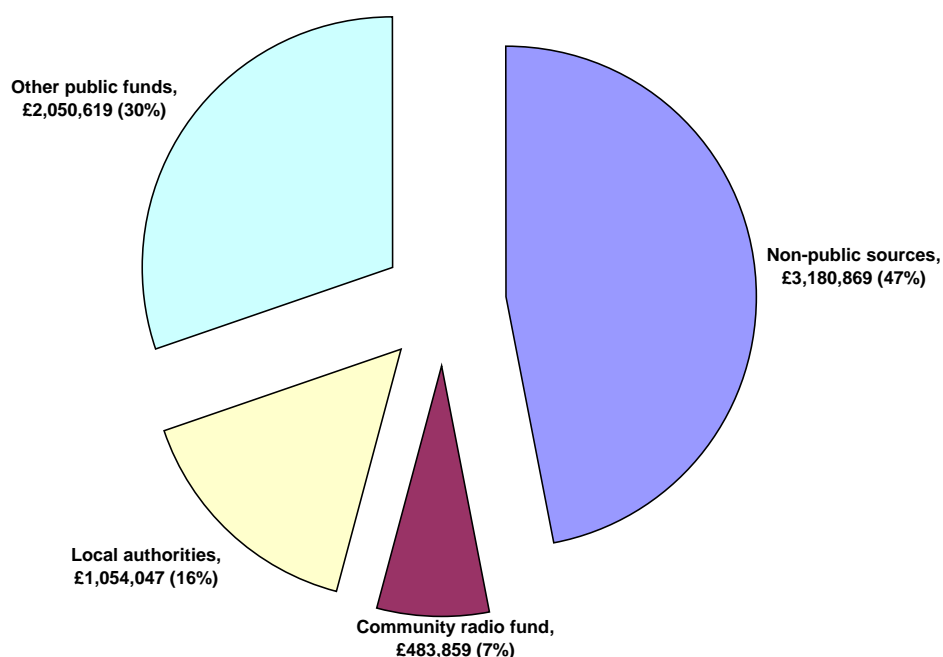
- 3.9 The average income for those stations which don't take on-air advertising or sponsorship is actually significantly more than the average for those that do, at £152k against £92k.
- 3.10 However, eight of the 10 stations which didn't take advertising in the reporting period did so as a matter of choice or policy, including a number which are supported by financially strong parent or partner organisations – thus reducing their need for commercial income. It should also be noted that within the community radio movement there has been a historic debate about the role of income from advertising; consequently a number of stations prefer not to take such commercial income for fear of deflecting from their core purpose. Similarly, some stations that target younger people have particular concerns about advertising towards this community, especially if the station is supported by one or more formal education institutions.
- 3.11 Only two stations in this reporting round are prevented by legislation from taking on-air advertising, and their overall income was significantly below average (£23,872). Both of these stations are supported by strong partner or parent organisations. The sector average income, excluding on-air advertising, is closer to £80,000.
- 3.12 On average, for those stations that do take on-air advertising and sponsorship, such income forms around 23% of total income (excluding 'in-kind' support – see below).
- 3.13 As shown in figure 6 below, some types of station were somewhat more (or less) likely to receive advertising income than the sector average: stations serving minority ethnic communities received 34% of their income from advertising, whilst stations serving general audiences in urban areas took on average only 11% of their income from advertising. However, there was no significant variation in the proportion of

income taken by on-air advertising relative to the length of time a station has been on air.

- 3.14 We do not have enough stations in each nation or English region to robustly report national/ regional trends, although this year's data suggest that stations in the east midlands take a higher than average proportion of their income from advertising, whilst those in Northern Ireland, the northeast of England and Wales take significantly less.
- 3.15 Seven stations received more than 50% of their cash income from on-air advertising and sponsorship; a further eight received between 40% and 50%. However, community radio stations are allowed to offset 'in-kind' support against other sources of income. In-kind support may come in the form of premises provided at 'peppercorn' rates, services such as marketing or, from April 2008, volunteer input (in June 2008 Ofcom published its guidelines for stations wishing to use volunteer time as part of station turnover - see [www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/volunteerinput.pdf](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/volunteerinput.pdf) - this valued an hour's volunteering from senior volunteers at £13.13 and for standard volunteers at £9.38).
- 3.16 The average value of in-kind support in the reporting period was £22,386, the majority of which was in the form of volunteer support, although support through the provision of premises and professional services is also common. The total value to the sector was around £1.48m for this sample.
- 3.17 Because the volunteer guidelines mentioned above were published in June 2008, Ofcom expects that many more stations will seek to account for volunteer support as in-kind support and that consequently the average will increase in future years. (It should also be noted that, by its nature, in-kind support is more difficult to accurately calculate than cash income and that therefore the average value of in-kind support should be seen as an approximate figure only.) Figure 9 (page 19) shows that the average number of volunteer hours per week is 214; in theory this could value the support the average station receives in-kind from volunteers at over £100k each year.
- 3.18 Stations serving minority ethnic communities were likely to claim substantially more (£37k) 'in-kind' support than the average, whilst those serving general audiences in urban areas claimed substantially less, at £10k.
- 3.19 Following the receipt of annual reports and our assessment of whether stations had been in breach of the 50% limit, Ofcom followed up with one group who had been in breach of the limit for the reporting period. As a result of this dialogue, Ofcom is satisfied that the station – which had received 56% of its income from on-air commercial sources – has taken appropriate steps to minimise the risk of this happening in the future. The station had been unsuccessful in a number of grant bids and also believed it had been too conservative in the range of potential funders it had approached. It has now employed a 'bid consultant' to increase the range and size of funds that it will bid for. Ofcom also notes that smaller stations, reliant on fewer sources of income, are potentially more at risk of being in breach of such a rule if one of the expected sources of non-commercial funding should fail to materialise.

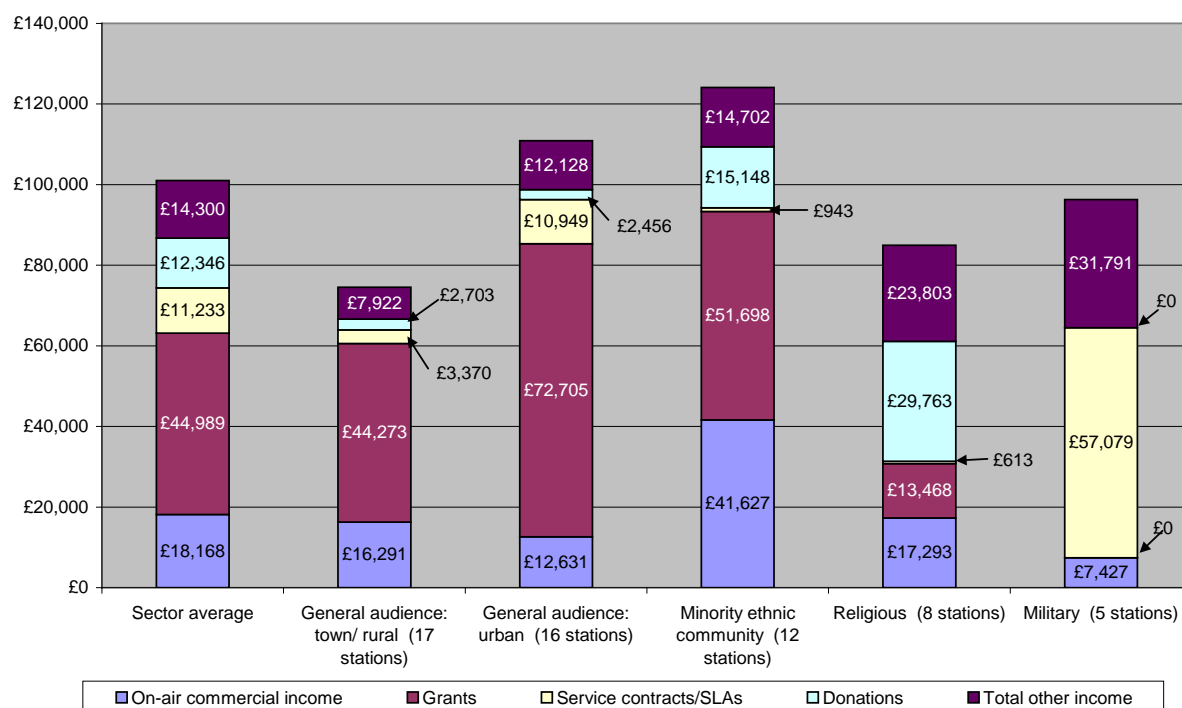
## Public funding

- 3.20 Ofcom also asked stations to report on their major funders, regardless of the type of income. From this we have calculated the approximate value of public funding towards community radio. The total value of public funding of community radio during the reporting period was just over £3.58m - around 53% of the sector's total income (see figure 5 below).
- 3.21 The most significant individual source of public funding is the Community Radio Fund, administered by Ofcom on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. The Fund is worth up to £500,000 per year and is designed to support the core costs of community radio services, such as fundraising and management. The typical grant per *successful* applicant is around £15k, and it is now rare for a station to receive more than one grant from the Fund in successive years. Further information on the Fund is available on Ofcom's website at [www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/Communityfund/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/Communityfund/). In the period under review the Fund accounted for around 7% of the sector's total income.
- 3.22 Local authorities are significant funders of community radio, usually in the form of grants but increasingly through SLAs, and they often pay for advertising of their services.
- 3.23 Other major sources of public funding include grants from central government bodies such as the Arts Council, the Ministry of Defence (for those stations serving military communities of interest), health providers, educational establishments and lottery grants. Ofcom is aware of recent substantial lottery grants to the parent companies of two community radio stations in excess of £300k each; these grants are for wider areas of work including community radio and are to be used over three and five years respectively and will be recorded in future years' reports.
- 3.24 Because Ofcom asked stations to identify the 10 most significant funders by value, it is possible that some public funds are not included in this total; however, the majority of stations have fewer than 10 funders – excluding advertisers and in-kind support from volunteers – and by definition the sums excluded from these totals will be lower in value.

**Figure 5: public funding of community radio stations****Income by type of community served:**

- 3.25 As shown in figure 2 earlier, community radio services serve a diverse range of audiences. Figure 6 below shows how different types of station can have quite marked variations in both their total income and the sources of that income.
- 3.26 Stations serving general audiences in urban areas and those serving minority ethnic communities (which also tend to be in urban areas) have incomes noticeably higher than the sector average at £111k and £124k respectively. Stations in small towns or rural areas have lower incomes (£75k), as do those serving religious communities (£85k). The data for military stations is mixed: in our group of five, one station had more income than the other four combined, if this station is taken out the group average income drops dramatically to less than £50k.
- 3.27 Stations serving general communities of interest take a higher proportion of their income from grants than the sector average, whereas religious stations and those serving military communities take significantly less. That said, military stations receive most of their income from public sources (84%), but they do not classify this as grant funding, and much of this is in the form of SLAs. Religious stations receive far more of their income (35%) in the form of donations than the sector average (12%) and far less from public sources (12%) compared to the sector average of 53%. Stations serving general interest communities in both urban and town/ rural areas receive more public funding than the average (65% and 68% respectively), whilst those serving minority ethnic communities receive somewhat less (41%) than the average.

**Figure 6: average income by community served<sup>7</sup>**



### The size of the population served: how does it affect income

- 3.28 Although stations in less densely populated areas have a lower income on average than the sector as a whole (at around £74k versus the sector average of £101k), they have a much greater average income relative to the size of the population served. Ofcom estimates that stations serving general audiences in rural areas or towns receive around five times the income per head compared to those in urban areas.
- 3.29 As discussed earlier (see paragraph 2.16), it is difficult to accurately calculate the size of communities of interest; however based on our initial estimates Ofcom believes that stations serving minority ethnic communities, religious communities and military personnel also receive more income per head of their target population than stations serving general communities in urban areas.
- 3.30 We do not have enough stations in each nation or English region to robustly report national/ regional trends. This year’s data suggest that stations in the southwest of England are likely to receive higher than average income per head of population served, although it should be noted that these stations are more likely to be in rural / smaller town areas.

<sup>7</sup> We have published the aggregate data for the five types of community served identified in the table as there each of these categories had a reasonably large number of stations included, with the exception of those serving military communities. With these (military) stations, the data was relatively consistent across the stations so we have included them also (see comment in paragraph 3.16). In future, as more stations report, we expect to be able to provide further aggregate detail on the other communities served.

### Income by length of time a station has been on air.

- 3.31 Perhaps unsurprisingly, stations that have been on air for a longer period of time tend to have a greater income. The 19 stations that had been on air for more than two years at the time of the report had an average income of over £145k (compared to the sector average of £101k).
- 3.32 These stations took around £8.5k more in on-air advertising (£30k v £21k) and over £20k more in grant funding than the sector average. The more established stations also received substantially more in donations (just under £22k) than the £12k sector average. However, there is little significant variation in the relative importance of different income streams –for example, on-air advertising represents just over 20% of the established stations’ income and just under 22% of younger stations’ income.
- 3.33 In absolute terms, the more established stations also received a greater amount of public funding - £68k against the sector average of £53k and £48k for the newer stations. However, this public money represents only 47% of their income, as opposed to 57% of the newer stations funding. This suggests that whilst the more established stations are able to attract higher levels of public funding, they are even more successful at attracting funds from other sources.

### Income by nation and region

- 3.34 As discussed previously, due to the small number of stations reporting in each nation (excluding England) or English region it is impossible to robustly report national/ regional trends. The most densely populated regions for community radio stations reporting this year are the east Midlands, northwest England and southeast England with nine stations each; Northern Ireland had five stations, Scotland eight and Wales three.
- 3.35 Based on these limited numbers, we see that stations in the east midlands appear to be attracting substantially more advertising as a proportion of their total income than the sector average, whilst those in the northeast of England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Yorkshire & Humberside are taking less. Stations in the east of England, northeast England, northwest England, Wales and Yorkshire & Humberside appear to take a greater proportion of their income from grant funding, whilst those in Northern Ireland, the southeast of England and the west Midlands take less. Other notable variations include the higher proportion of Northern Irish stations’ income coming from SLAs and the significant value of donations to Scottish stations.
- 3.36 In terms of their access to public funding, stations in the east of England, northeast England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Yorkshire & Humberside receive a higher proportion of their income from public sources than the sector average<sup>8</sup>, whilst those in London, southeast England and the west Midlands receive less.

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<sup>8</sup> In the case of northeast England, overall income is lower than the sector average, so in absolute terms these stations actually receive less public funding.

## Section 4

# Community Radio Stations' Costs

- 4.1 The average community radio station costs just over £101k a year to run; however, as with the sector's income this average disguises a wide range from around £10k to just over £510k. Again, the median figure is much lower at £64.5k, suggesting a small number of high cost stations are responsible for the high average figure.
- 4.2 Although a small number of stations (nine in this reporting year) don't have paid staff, for the sector as a whole salaries account for 51% of costs and the average spent on staff by those stations with paid staff is just under £60k.

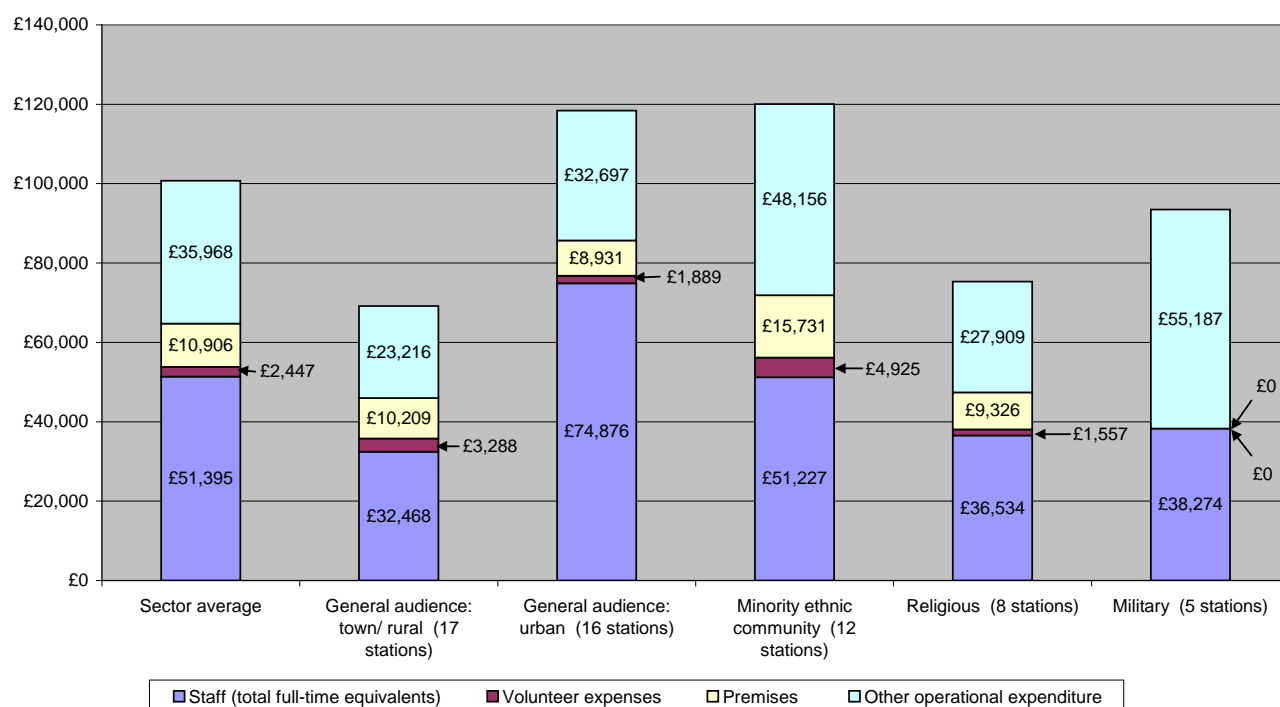
**Figure 7: sector average expenditure**

	<b>Sample total</b>	<b>% of sector total</b>	<b>Station average</b>	<b>Average for those stations with specific cost type</b>
Total expenditure	£6,771,415	100%	£101,066	n/a
Staff	£3,443,479	51%	£51,395	£59,370 (58 stations)
Volunteer costs	£163,951	2.4%	£2,447	£3,999 (41 stations)
Premises	£730,682	11%	£10,906	£14,912 (49 stations)
Other <sup>9</sup> (including transmission, marketing and professional services)	£2,409,874	36%	£35,968	£37,075 (65 stations)

## Variation in expenditure by type of community served

- 4.3 Those stations with higher than average incomes (general audience stations in urban areas and those serving minority ethnic communities) also have higher than average costs, as shown in figure 8 below. However, the allocation of costs is reasonably consistent across the different types of communities served. The most notable differences are the higher than average staff costs of general audience stations in urban areas (63% versus the 51% sector average) and the lower than average cost of staff as a proportion of their overall cost base for stations serving minority ethnic and military communities (42% and 41% of their costs respectively). Stations serving military communities also spend notably more on other costs such as transmission, at 59% of their total costs against the sector average of 36%.

<sup>9</sup> Ofcom notes the high cost of 'other' items and will seek further detail in the next reporting round. Ofcom believes the majority of costs in this area are in the form of transmission and other engineering costs.

**Figure 8: community radio stations' expenditure by type of community served**

### Variation in expenditure by length of time on air

- 4.4 As we noted earlier, the 19 stations in this report that have been on air for more than two years had a substantially greater income than the sector average; correspondingly, they also have higher costs, spending around £144k compared to the sector average of £101k (and only £84k for the more recently launched stations). However, there is not a significant variation in the proportion spent on different expenditure types: for example, whilst the more established stations typically spend around £71k on staff – some £20k more than the average – this still represents 50% of their costs, in line with the sector average of 51%.

### Variation in expenditure by nation/ region

- 4.5 As we explained previously, due to the small number of stations reporting in each nation or English region it is impossible to robustly report national/ regional trends. The limited data available suggests that, at present, stations in London, northeast England and southwest England spend notably less on staff than the sector average, whilst those in Northern Ireland, northwest England and the west Midlands spend more. The limited data available also suggests that stations in Northern Ireland and Wales spend more on 'other' costs such as transmission.

### Are stations meeting their costs?

- 4.6 As can be seen from the sector's average income (£101,036) and expenditure (£101,066) community radio stations are, in the main, meeting their costs. However, there is a wide range contained within these averages, with the highest surplus at £87k and the greatest deficit at £123k.

- 4.7 In general surpluses have been used to service existing debt or to fund equipment replacement; deficits are funded through parent organisations or from previous years' surpluses.
- 4.8 Those stations serving religious communities have a much greater surplus on average, at just under £10k, whilst those serving general audiences in urban areas were most likely to report a deficit, on average around £8k.
- 4.9 It should be noted that stations' financial years were not always equivalent to the Ofcom reporting period, and that for example grants may have been received outside of this period – suggesting a deficit when in fact the station is reasonably secure.

## Section 5

# Community Radio Stations' Key Commitments and Social Gain

- 5.1 Community radio services are licensed under the terms of the Community Radio Order 2004 (the Order) which modifies some sections of the Broadcasting Act 1990 (the Broadcasting Act) as amended by the Communications Act 2003 (together "the Legislation"). The Order sets out a wide range of requirements which broadcasters must comply with in order to be awarded and subsequently to retain a community radio licence.
- 5.2 At the heart of the Order are the 'characteristics of community radio services' which define the nature of community radio, as well as various more detailed specific requirements which Ofcom must take into account when assessing an application for a community radio licence.
- 5.3 The specific characteristics of community radio service imposed upon community radio stations by Article 3 of the Order require that such services are operated:
- for the good of the public;
  - to deliver social gain (community benefit);
  - to serve specific communities;
  - to operate on a non-profit-distributing basis;
  - to provide operational and managerial opportunities for members of the
  - target community (or communities); and
  - whereby the person providing the service is accountable to the community concerned.
- 5.4 The term 'social gain' is further defined by the Legislation, and includes four mandatory social gain objectives, as well as allowing services to define further social gain objectives themselves. The mandatory requirements are:
- a service for underserved groups;
  - the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion;
  - the provision of education or training (to non-employees); and
  - facilitating the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of links within it.
- 5.5 The Legislation requires Ofcom to include in each community radio licence such conditions as are appropriate for securing that the character of service, as proposed

in the application, is maintained. As a result each station has specific 'key commitments' which form part of the licence. They are based on the promises made in the application, and agreed with each station before it commences broadcasting.

5.6 The 'key commitments' is the equivalent of the 'Format' included in every commercial radio licence. However, commercial radio services are not expected to adhere to such a wide range of requirements as community radio services, and as a result their 'Formats' relate primarily to their broadcast output (i.e. what the listener hears) rather than off-air activities that they may undertake.

5.7 The 'key commitments' include:

- a description of the community to be served;
- a summary of the character of service (a short description of the station's aims);
- a description of the programme service;
- social gain objectives (including how the station will satisfy the four mandatory social gain requirements set out above, and any other social gain objectives of the service);
- access and participation arrangements; and
- mechanisms to ensure accountability to the target community.

5.8 As part of its annual report process, Ofcom asks all stations that have been on-air for more than a year to report back on progress against their key commitments; these reports are then published by each station on its website and also by Ofcom at [www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/). By the nature of key commitments, not all of the feedback Ofcom receives is quantifiable; however, there are some elements that we can usefully summarise to report on for the sector as a whole (see figure 9).

5.9 The vast majority of stations submitting a report have met the bulk of their key commitments. However, in one case Ofcom was not satisfied with a station's performance. Following the procedure set out in our document 'Regulation of community radio services' available at ([www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/crregulation/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/crregulation/)), we are now in further dialogue with the station in order to resolve the matter and expect to issue an update on our website shortly.

**Figure 9: selected key commitments data**

	<b>Sector sample average</b>	<b>General audience - town/ rural (17 stations)</b>	<b>General audience - urban (16 stations)</b>	<b>Minority ethnic community (12 stations)</b>	<b>Religious (8 stations)</b>	<b>Military (5 stations)</b>
Average total number of	74	54	101	77	66	6

volunteers						
Volunteer hours (average total per week)	214	181	267	227	156	11
Average volunteer hours per week	2.89	3.35	2.64	2.95	2.36	2.89
Original hours of output per week	81	82	91	89	66	37
% speech of original output	33	30	30	35	45	27

### Programming: original output

- 5.10 Due to their reliance on volunteers, community radio services are very rarely live for 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week (networking, or overnight automation, is not unusual in the radio sector more generally).
- 5.11 The sector average is 81 hours of original programming each week. The vast majority is produced locally and most of this output is live. However, stations may broadcast 'as live' for a number of reasons; work with inexperienced and / or vulnerable volunteer broadcasters may demand greater monitoring of output, and volunteer availability can have an impact on the hours at which material can be broadcast. Stations serving general audiences in urban areas and minority ethnic communities tend to have the most hours of original output – they also have the most volunteers and higher incomes - whilst only stations serving military communities broadcast substantially less, at 37 hours per week.
- 5.12 Stations that have been on air for two years or more also tend to have more original output, reflecting their more established presence in their communities.

### Programming: speech and music

- 5.13 When licensing community radio stations, Ofcom must ensure that the proposed service offers distinctive output compared to other local alternatives. This in turn means that music and speech output on community radio is exceptionally diverse.
- 5.14 Stations that target a particular community of interest have music that reflects the interest of that community, for example Afan FM in south Wales broadcasts mainly indie, dance and chart music in accordance with the preferences of its young target community. Stations serving more general audiences will often take a more mainstream approach, especially for daytime output and in particular when they are serving smaller towns that do not have local alternatives. However, these stations do have a breadth of music output during their evening programming. For example, Market Harborough's HFM's specialist shows have featured heavy rock, soft rock,

'ambient space music', country and western, album tracks, chill out music, show tunes, and big band swing.

- 5.15 Speech programming forms a significant component of community radio's live output; on average speech formed 33% of stations' live daytime output during the reporting period. Stations serving religious communities had particularly high levels of speech (45%). There is no significant difference by the length of time a station has been on air.
- 5.16 Speech programming covers a very wide range of output, including news, chat shows, what's on guides, slots for community groups to discuss their activities, coverage of local sports and documentaries - Cheshire FM's documentary on the near collapse of its local football club 'The Saving of Northwich Victoria' was later picked up by a national sports broadcaster (Setanta).
- 5.17 A number of stations broadcast in languages other than English. Stations with a strong non-English language focus include Belfast's Raidió Fáilte, which mainly broadcasts in Irish<sup>10</sup> and Desi Radio (west London) which mainly broadcasts in Panjabi. Six of the nine stations in Wales have a commitment to Welsh language programming - for example up to a third of Llandudno's Tudno FM's output is in Welsh. In Scotland five stations commit to some Gaelic programming.
- 5.18 Stations aimed at general audiences can also have a diversity of language output, BCB's output was discussed earlier (paragraph 2.14) and Bristol Community Radio has a similarly diverse output, in one week broadcasting nine hours of Somali output, four hours in Spanish, three hours of Arabic and three hours of various other Asian languages, with other languages occasionally featuring.

### **Social gain – serving the underserved**

- 5.19 All community radio stations are expected to serve the 'underserved', that is people who do not have local radio services currently aimed at them.
- 5.20 For many stations this mission is implicit in their target community - stations targeting minority ethnic communities are generally aimed at a community that is underserved by definition. Others, serving general audiences, often target specific underserved groups within their general community. For example Brighton's Radio Reverb has programming produced by and broadcast for identified groups including the lesbian gay, bisexual and transgender communities, lifelong learners, the over 60's, single parents, minority languages, asylum seekers, those with mental health issues, those with a previous history of drug and alcohol misuse and the visually impaired and disabled.

### **Social gain - facilitating discussion and the expression of opinion**

- 5.21 Community radio stations provide many opportunities for local people to take part in discussions and express their views, often via their usual speech programming, sometimes in the form of regular discussion programmes and also through one-off features tied to special events.

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<sup>10</sup> Irish Gaelic

- 5.22 Lionheart Radio in Northumberland reported over 100 guests interviewed in a quarter, receiving 3,200 text messages and a further 1,300 emails over the same period. It also used Facebook, BEBO and YouTube to widen reach and debate among younger listeners.
- 5.23 WFM, a general audience service on the outskirts of Manchester, hosted and broadcast a number of debates, including one during the station's Refugee Week. The station delivered a 'Sense of Place' project for the City Council which involved broadcasting a debate with local residents and local Councillors on a wide range of issues affecting the community and on how the area is perceived. WFM also broadcast discussion programming on issues such as transport, domestic violence and the environment, with contributions from senior representatives from the local regeneration team, housing associations and other organisations within the community.

### **Social gain- training for people not employed by the station**

- 5.24 In addition to the training provided to volunteers, many stations also offer a wide range of training opportunities to their target communities, from informal drop-ins, through short courses and up to fully accredited training programmes (often in partnership with educational institutions). Work experience placements offer another way of providing training to members of the community. For example, in addition to the 230+ young people that Life FM (now Bang Radio) in West London engaged with through accredited and non-accredited training, a further 10 work placements of between one week and three months were provided for school and college students.
- 5.25 Wolverhampton's WCR delivered accredited training to 49 of its 190 volunteers, of whom 44 gained a pass at Level 1 in NCFE Radio Production. WCR's volunteers range in age from under 16 to 80 plus and come from ethnic backgrounds that parallel the ethnic mix of the community. WCR FM also worked in partnership with the University of Wolverhampton and The City of Wolverhampton College on the delivery of a new Foundation Degree in Broadcast Journalism, offering students a chance to undertake training that contributed to their courses. The station has worked closely with volunteer organisations and agencies representing the unemployed to ensure that training opportunities are available to the disadvantaged whilst employing media, both general and targeted, as well as its programming to make these opportunities well known city-wide.

### **Social gain- the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of the links within it**

- 5.26 Community radio stations seek to better understand and strengthen links within their community through a wide range of mechanisms. For example, they can engage with other community groups to develop their understanding and then promote awareness of those groups on air, often through joint programming initiatives. Glasgow's Sunny Govan featured over 800 local community groups and organisations throughout its broadcast year, thus raising awareness of the services (or lack of) within the community and offering support to individuals affected by similar issues. Several local community groups now have "ownership" of their own radio programme – that is they take responsibility for the research and content in their show, and use the airtime to provide information about their group to the community.

## Additional social gain objectives

- 5.27 In addition to the statutory social gain objectives, many stations commit to further social gain goals.
- 5.28 Promoting awareness of local authority services is one of the most common additional social gain objectives. Stations such as Castledown Radio in Wiltshire have developed a good working relationship with their local authorities and other agencies with local councillors and officers regularly taking part in interviews about their services and amenities.
- 5.29 Castledown Radio is also one of a number of stations that seek to promote local economic development. Its features have included coverage of the local Chamber of Commerce and Tidworth Development Trust AGMs, alongside interviews with key local figures including the Chair of the Chamber of Commerce, a social enterprise advisor and an organisation delivering business start-up courses. It has also broadcast updates on the development of Castledown Business Park, a new supermarket in Tidworth, and progress on a multi billion upgrade of military garrisons on Salisbury Plain.
- 5.30 The promotion of employment is a further example of social gain; many stations, such as All FM in Manchester, work closely with local job centres and employment agencies to offer opportunities to the unemployed and promote avenues back to work. Insight Radio, based in Glasgow, seeks to educate potential employers about the ease with which they could employ a blind or partially sighted individual. It regularly hosts visits to the station by such employers who are shown the involvement of blind/partially sighted staff in the day to day running of the station. Prospective employers also learn about the needs of blind or partially sighted employees as well as the various programmes – financial and practical – which exist through Government to enable them to employ someone living with sight loss.
- 5.31 Promoting social inclusion is another key goal and covers a wide range of activity - Ipswich Community Radio works closely with an E2E (Entry to Employment) project based in the same building, project participants are trained use the facilities to make their own music – in the station's production studio – and have contributed tracks and jingles to Ipswich Community Radio's output. The station also works with people from the Polish, Portuguese, Chinese, Indian, Iranian and Afro-Caribbean communities, and has participants who are asylum seekers from Togo and Zimbabwe. During the reporting period 31 of 113 presenters (27%) were from a non-white UK background – a proportion that is increasing.
- 5.32 Another common example of social gain includes support for community events. For example Phoenix FM in Brentwood, Essex played an active role in providing indoor and outdoor PA services for many local events and Nottingham's Kemet FM has developed a 'Roadshow' which has broadcast from local Community Centres, Nottingham Market Square, Nottingham's Riverside Festival and it participated in the turning on of the Christmas lights in Nottingham last year, all of which is bringing a greater presence and understanding of the Afro-Caribbean community to a wider audience.
- 5.33 Finally, many stations seek to promote local artistic talent, Forest FM (East Dorset) has developed a scheme called 'Breakthrough' which seeks to promote local bands and musicians who do not get their music played on other stations. They have daily

airplay for one month, a gig arranged locally and an in depth interview on the station's 'Wired' programme which is especially for new and local bands and musicians.

## Access and participation

- 5.34 Volunteering plays a key role in all community radio services – the legislation makes it clear that access to, and participation in, the operation of community radio is a key characteristic of the sector. Volunteers take on all types of roles at community stations, from back office support staff such as receptionists and cleaners, through presenting, training other volunteers and up to board members and station managers. Consequently the time given by volunteers can vary dramatically, from a couple of hours a month to 80+ hours a week. Similarly, some volunteers may participate for a short period of time – perhaps over a couple of weeks assisting with the production of a programme – whilst others have been involved with their station for many years.
- 5.35 This wide variation in commitment needs to be borne in mind when looking at averages across the sector, where we find that the average number of volunteers is 74 (with a range from 2 to 264), and the average number of hours given by volunteers in total each week is 214 (with a range from 12 to 1030 hours per week). The more established stations (those on air for two years or more) tend to have a higher number of volunteers (92) than their more recent peers (67 volunteers on average).
- 5.36 The average time given by individual volunteers is just under three hours per week each, and this is reasonably consistent across different types of services – volunteers at stations serving general audiences in towns or rural areas give the most time, at 3.3 hours per week whilst those at religious stations give the least at 2.7 hours per week.

## Accountability

- 5.37 Each community radio station must demonstrate that it is accountable to the community that it wishes to serve. Accountability can be manifest in a number of ways - for example, the Management Board of Radio Teesdale is made up of community representatives who are elected at its AGM and the Board is constitutionally accountable to the membership. The membership of Radio Teesdale is free of charge and fully inclusive, with members ranging in age from 11 to 80+ years old. Of a membership of 180, there are now 110 people who play an active role in the running of the station at any moment in time. An officer of Teesdale District Council has been co-opted onto the Board of Management and attends meetings. Members of the Management Board of Radio Teesdale hold regular meetings with organisations responsible for community volunteering, tourism, business support and start up, and a group set up to create a 'Vision for Barnard Castle' over the next 20 years. Furthermore, listener feedback is extensively encouraged in programmes. In every live programme, listeners are encouraged to ring the studio (on a line direct to the presenter). Pre-recorded announcements requesting listener feedback are also played during live programmes and during non presenter led automated hours.
- 5.38 Not all stations have a directly elected board, so other mechanisms must be used to ensure accountability. Hope FM in Bournemouth, a station with strong links to the

local YMCA, has a Listener Panel drawn from its partners and various quarters of the local community, it also holds quarterly volunteer meetings to ensure open discussion on progress within the station and has sent a progress report to supporters.

## Major difficulties

- 5.39 Ofcom also asked stations to report, in confidence, on major difficulties that they had faced. As this feedback was given in confidence we cannot name the stations concerned, however a number of key trends were obvious.
- 5.40 Problems with funding are a major concern for many stations:
- Stations report that community radio doesn't directly fit the organisational profile that many funding bodies seek, with a lack of awareness amongst funders of the range of activity that community radio can deliver.
  - Core funding – such as for staff costs - is particularly difficult to secure; stations report more success in attracting start up costs or funds for project work, but this can make planning for long term sustainability difficult. The small size of the Community Radio Fund - which is designed to support core costs - was identified as a particular concern by a number of stations. The Fund is currently worth up to £500k per year, but this is equivalent to less than £4k per station currently on air.
  - Some stations outside of urban areas perceive that there is more funding available for inner city locations. (Ofcom's findings discussed earlier suggest that stations in urban areas do receive more funds in absolute terms than others, however per head of population urban stations receive significantly less.)
  - Others expressed concern about the 50% limit on income from on-air advertising, and on the limit of 50% of funding from any one source, suggesting such restrictions were disproportionate (although the new rule to allow stations to offset volunteer input against other types of income was welcomed). One station that is not able to take advertising at all noted that this meant it was unable to employ a station manager, with a consequent impact upon its service.
- 5.41 Whilst most stations see volunteers as being critical to their identity and ethos as a community radio service, a reliance on volunteers can cause particular strains. Volunteers often fit their duties in around full-time jobs which can cause administrative difficulties, and the nature of volunteer support can mean that they give a lower priority to their input into the station as they seek to maintain a work-life balance. This can also be manifest in volunteer input to mechanisms like steering groups, where the difficulties volunteers can have in giving formal commitments can have an impact upon the effectiveness of the group.
- 5.42 Some stations reported problems with their transmission area, with either insufficient coverage within their existing area or a wish to expand coverage in order to promote a sustainable service. (Ofcom's engineering and coverage policy for community radio is set out in section 5 of our Notes of Guidance for Community Radio Licence Applicants and Licensees available at [www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun\\_radio/tlproc/nogs\\_r23.pdf](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/tlproc/nogs_r23.pdf).)
- 5.43 A couple of stations also raised concerns about unlicensed (pirate) broadcasters; in one case unlicensed broadcasters were causing interference to the community

station's signal, in the other case the community station believed unlicensed services were presenting themselves as legitimate broadcasters and thus securing advertising revenue that might have gone to the community station.

### **Listener figures**

- 5.44 The industry standard for measuring listener figures is known as RAJAR (Radio Joint Audience Research). However, the cost of RAJAR is prohibitive for most community radio stations - at least £10k per year - and therefore reliable data on audience sizes is not available.

## Annex 1

## Annex 1 List of stations completing annual report

Station name	Location	Community Served
Afan FM	Neath and Port Talbot	Younger people
Aldershot Garrison FM	Aldershot	Military
ALL FM	Manchester	General audience - urban
Angel Radio Havant	Havant	Older people
Asian Star	Slough	Ethnic
Awaz FM	Glasgow	Ethnic
BCB	Bradford	General audience - urban
BFBS Lisburn	Lisburn	Military
Black Diamond FM	Midlothian	General audience - urban
BRFM (Bridge FM)	Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey	General audience - town/ rural
Bristol Community FM	Bristol	General audience - urban
Castledown Radio	Bulford/ Tidworth	General audience - town/ rural
Cheshire FM	Mid-Cheshire	General audience - town/ rural
Chorley FM	Chorley, Lancashire	Younger people
Colchester Army Radio	Colchester	Military
Crescent Radio	Rochdale	Religious
Cross Rhythms City Radio	Stoke-on-Trent	Religious
Cross Rhythms Plymouth	Plymouth	Religious
CSR	Canterbury	Younger people
Desi Radio	London	Ethnic
Diverse FM	Luton	General audience - urban
Down FM	Downpatrick	General audience - town/ rural
Edinburgh Garrison FM	Edinburgh	Military
Express FM	Portsmouth	Younger people
Forest FM	Verwood	General audience - town/ rural
Forest of Dean Community Radio	Forest of Dean	General audience - town/ rural
Future Radio	Norwich	General audience - town/ rural
Gloucester FM	Gloucester	Ethnic
GTFM	Pontypridd	General audience - town/ rural
Harborough FM (HFM)	Market Harborough	General audience - town/ rural
Hope FM	Bournemouth	Religious
Insight Radio	Glasgow	Disabled
Ipswich Community Radio	Ipswich	General audience - town/ rural
Kemet Radio	Nottingham	Ethnic
Leith FM	Leith	General audience - urban
Life FM	London	General audience - urban
Link FM	Harold Wood	General audience - urban
Lionheart Radio	Alnwick	General audience - town/ rural

New Style Radio 98.7 FM	Birmingham	Ethnic
Nu Sound Radio	London	General audience - urban
Oldham Community Radio	Oldham	General audience - urban
Pendle Community Radio	Nelson	Ethnic
Phoenix FM	Brentwood	General audience - town/ rural
Pure Radio	Stockport	General audience - urban
Radio Asian Fever	Leeds	Ethnic
Radio Dawn	Nottingham	Religious
Radio Faza 97.1 fm (AWP)	Nottingham	Ethnic
Radio Ikhlas	Derby	Ethnic
Radio Teesdale	Teesdale	General audience - town/ rural
Radio Verulam	St Albans	General audience - town/ rural
RadioReverb	Brighton	General audience - urban
Raidió Fáilte	Belfast	Ethnic
Resonance FM	London	Art
Revival Radio	Cumbernauld	Religious
Salisbury Plain Garrison FM	Salisbury	Military
Shine FM	Banbridge	Religious
Siren FM	Lincoln	Younger people
Skyline Community Radio	Hedge End	General audience - town/ rural
Sunny Govan Radio	Glasgow	General audience - urban
Takeover Radio	Leicester	Younger people
Tempo 107.4 FM	Wetherby	General audience - town/ rural
The Eye	Melton Mowbray	General audience - town/ rural
Unity 101	Southampton	Ethnic
Unity FM	Birmingham	Religious
WCR FM (Wolverhampton Community Radio FM)	Wolverhampton	General audience - urban
West Hull Community Radio (WHCR)	Hull	General audience - urban
Wythenshawe FM	Manchester	General audience - urban