

Community radio licence: key commitments

Licence outline: CR025

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| Station name | Chorley FM |
| Community to be served | The young people (15-25 years of age) and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Chorley. |
| Licence area | Chorley (up to a 5km radius from the transmission site) |
| Frequency | 102.8 MHz |

Character of service

Chorley FM will serve Chorley's youth (those aged between 15 and 25) in targeted community safety areas and Chorley's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Community. It is committed to having a positive effect and bringing about changes to the educational and cultural development of the communities it will serve.

Programming

Programming will include a choice of programmes that will encourage social group activity and cater for the demand for "Underground" abstract music not covered by existing stations in the locality; the station will not broadcast programmes consisting of continuous current or recent chart music.

- Live programming will typically comprise 60% music and 40% speech during peak daytime hours ('speech' excludes advertising, programme / promotional trails and sponsor credits).
- Speech output will include debate, information, local news, interviews with local young people, local group discussion forums (which may feature some music), phone ins, what's on guide, older listeners recollections and rural views and news from Borough Villages.
- Music output will typically include a range of genres such as house, trance and dance mixed by local DJ's, Rock Classic, Heavy Metal, and Punk, Chart and Classic Pop, Local Bands, R&B and Hip Hop, Soul, Motown, Stax and other.
- The service will typically be live for 8 hours a day (live programming may include pre-recorded inserts, if applicable) and broadcast for 16 hours a day. The majority of output will be locally produced, some programming may be produced by other community radio groups.

Social gain objectives

Community Radio Order 2004: "It is a characteristic of community radio services that they are local services provided primarily (a) for the good of members of the public,

or of particular communities, and (b) in order to deliver social gain, rather than primarily for commercial reasons or for the financial or other material gain of the individuals involved in providing the service."

"(a) the provision of sound broadcasting services to individuals who are otherwise underserved"

- Speech programming for the underserved LGBT community will include a mixture of studio discussions and programmes on local, national and international LGBT issues such as legal changes, health, relationships, parenting and education. Other, general interest, speech-based output may also be included.
- Music will be across the spectrum representing the wide range of ages and musical interests of LGBT people.
- For young people the station will provide a platform for performance by local unsigned bands and DJ's, and an opportunity to hear less commercial music than that broadcast by the commercial stations in nearby towns.

"(b) the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion"

- Speech programming will include interviews with local young people, a LGBT group show and phone ins.
- The station will encourage the use of the studio, discussion and interviews with guests on a wide range of LGBT – related and other topics. Listeners will be encouraged to phone in or send text messages with their views on the topic.

"(c) the provision (whether by means of programmes included in the service or otherwise) or education or training to individuals not employed by the person providing the service"

- Members of both target communities will be offered free radio skills training with a view to their being able to participate in the teams producing the community programmes. This will include microphone and presentation skills, programme planning, and sound engineering. The station will aim to train 300 young people (over 5 years).
- The station will provide access to the facilities and training for the blind and hard of hearing amongst others. This may include assisted travel such as dial a ride for disabled members of the community. The station will aim to provide training for up to 30 people with special needs annually.

- The station intends to work with organisations such as Runshaw College and Lancashire College to provide training expertise and opportunities.
- Job vacancies will be advertised & training courses designed and delivered with the job seeking youth in mind. This will include DJ and music technology courses run by the station in conjunction with local colleges.
- The station will provide off-site training sessions covering skills such as presentation, broadcast protocol and DJ-ing in external venues.

"(d) the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of the links within it"

- The station will use existing contacts between Chorley FM and workers who serve its target communities to become better informed about the needs of the communities and to make contact with individuals who wish to train and get involved in producing programmes.
- The station will maintain links with a range of local organisations such as Youth & Community Services, South Lancashire Arts Partnership, and Project Oscar (a local gay health project).
- The station will develop resources to advertise the station within its target communities and conduct outreach work, e.g., by visiting groups to talk about the station and what it can offer the communities.
- The station will encourage community groups and schools to visit the station; and to make use of the stations facilities to promote their message.

Additional social gain objectives:

- The station will highlight other action groups and local services, such as links with the local Police group aimed at reducing youth crime and drug use.
- External job advertisements and training opportunities will be promoted.
- The station will work with South Lancashire Arts Partnership to create links with community and residents groups and statutory organisations through existing meetings. Local groups meet on a regular basis to air views on different topics, at which other groups are invited. The station will also help with the Chorley Festival.

Access and participation

Community Radio Order 2004: "It is a characteristic of every community radio service that members of the community it is intended to serve are given opportunities to participate in the operation and management of the service."

- Through its training and development programmes, the station will provide hands on experience in all aspects of the stations running, output and management with reimbursement of reasonable expenses for volunteers. The station will work with up to 136 volunteers in the first year with an additional 40 a year there after.
- The station contributes to community groups that will participate and evaluate the stations output and its effectiveness, with feedback to the Board. These groups include 'Project Oscar', 'Lisieux Hall' (a local agent for young people with learning disabilities) and 'Prevent and Deter' (which includes Police, Education, Social Services). Chorley Council and volunteers will also have the opportunity to provide a representative at meetings with the Board on a bi monthly basis.
- The station will have a flexible approach all round to allow access for people in different situations, such as working parents, school times and holidays.

Accountability to the target community

Community Radio Order 2004: "It is a characteristic of every community radio service that, in respect of the provision of that service, the person providing the service makes himself accountable to the community that the service is intended to serve."

- The station's Board is made up of a mixture of professional and community group representatives. The station will publish an annual report in conjunction with its AGM, available on its web site.
- Feedback from listeners, volunteers, community members or advertisers can be left on the website and the station will use questionnaires, research and surveys to seek to understand the views of the community. Local newspapers and slots within the programming will be used to encourage feedback.
- Public meetings will be held annually as part of the station's annual general meeting. Feedback from such meetings will be discussed at Board level, changes implemented as and when necessary after voting on these changes where appropriate
- Feedback will be collected and logged for discussion at Board meetings and to inform changes to current or new programming schedules. Solutions to problems arising within the station, programmes or training will be aired at Board level and where necessary Public meetings. These will be published if necessary.
- There will be a publicised and clear channel complaints procedure.

**All material in italics is direct quotations from the Community Radio Order 2004*