

## **Community radio licence: key commitments**

### **Licence outline CR 096**

<b>Station name</b>	<b>Aldershot Garrison FM</b>
<b>Community to be served</b>	<b>All soldiers, their families and MoD civilians living and working within the Army community in Aldershot Garrison and Mytchett Barracks.</b>
<b>Licence area</b>	<b>Aldershot and surrounding area (up to a 5km radius from the transmission site)</b>
<b>Frequency</b>	<b>102.5 MHz</b>

### **Character of service**

Aldershot Army Radio will provide a welfare and communications package to the target community to make it aware of current Army and local issues. It will raise awareness of what facilities and opportunities are available, involve listeners in events and activities in their own community and local environs and provide other relevant information.

### **Programming**

The station will be an entertaining and informative blend of news, information, interviews and music that appeals to the age range and tastes of an audience linked by one common theme: the British Army.

- Output will typically comprise 75% music and 25% speech in daytime (0600-1800 hours). Outside these hours the ratios will be around 85:15 music to speech.
- Music output will comprise popular hits from the last 4 decades, with no era dominating, from current chart hits through the 00s, 90s, 80s and 70s in decreasing proportions.
- The speech output will comprise news bulletins (national and world, Army and local), sports bulletins (including Army sports news), interviews, vox pops and features on issues affecting the target community.
- Output will be broadcast mainly in English, with some programming in Nepali.
- The service will typically be live, and produced locally, for at least 5 hours per day. Other output will be a dedicated feed using locally generated material. (Live programming may include pre-recorded inserts, if applicable). The service aims to increase the amount of live local output during the licence period, subject to the availability of volunteers.

**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"*

The needs of the target community will be served by the station delivering programming that is not provided on other radio services, specifically:

- Army welfare and information services.
- Army policy information for serving soldiers and their families.
- An interface between Army families in Aldershot Garrison and Mytchett Barracks and their loved ones when enforced separation occurs due to overseas deployment.
- Access to Army Education and Learning for the wider Army community
- Information on regimental and unit deployments, Garrison developments etc.

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

The group will offer opportunities to express views and opinions:

- Regular vox pops on current garrison, Army and welfare issues
- There will be opportunities to question studio guests on the air e.g. local Commanders
- The service will provide a dedicated and confidential message hotline enabling any soldier, family member or civilian to raise issues on any topics.

*"(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"*

- The service will raise awareness of the routes to education and training opportunities through promotions, interviews and features on various Army training initiatives.
- Programming will also feature live broadcasts and interviews from HQAG (Headquarters Adjutant General) where the target audience will have the opportunity to learn more about how the Army operates at the highest level and how it formulates policy (welfare, deployments, operational etc).
- The Army Education Centre will be offered the opportunity to use the service's training staff to enhance their own media training courses in addition to implementing their own resettlement courses involving radio.
- The service will allocate 40 places per year for print and voice, radio and media training with all places being filled from within the target community.

*“(d) the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of the links within it”*

- The service will build on established links with the target community.
- Team members will visit and interact with the various constituents of the garrison; units, regiments, Garrison Headquarters and facilities, and regularly attend family and welfare events.
- By encouraging studio visits the team believes this will develop further participation and contributions to the output from the community.
- Promotion of local charitable and fund-raising events.
- Focus groups / questionnaires will reach the target audience through publication in the Aldershot Herald (garrison publication) and Part One orders (a formal Army document issued weekly to every serving soldier).

Additional social gain objective:

- The service will act as a bridge to specific areas of the local civilian community, e.g. local government, education and training services, health and employment opportunities.

### **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.”*

- The station will train up and incorporate volunteer presenters and reporters, including young recruits at Deepcut. Appropriate training will be provided.
- The Board of Management will comprise in part of members of the target community.

### **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 service will be accountable through a series of reporting initiatives including:

- Quarterly reports detailing station activities for the Board of Management and Garrison Headquarters.
- A listenership and attitude survey of the target community.
- Focus groups to provide feedback on the service from soldiers, families and MoD civilians.

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