

Community radio licence: key commitments

Licence outline: CR098

Station name	Cross Rhythms Teesside
Community to be served	The Christian Community in Stockton-on-Tees and Middlesbrough in the 16-35 age group.
Licence area	Stockton-on-Tees (up to a 5km radius from the transmission site)
Frequency	107.1 MHz

Character of service

The station's primary aim is to be a voice for the Christian community, both within it, and to the wider population of the Tees-Valley. The station hopes to achieve this by producing programming that highlights relevant organisations and issues, providing for the information needs of its listeners through means such as local news and information and also by providing a service that is also entertaining with out using methods that perhaps might be not fit in with its Christian beliefs. It intends to do this in such a manner that is not introspective but inclusive so that, regardless of background, it will be possible for members of the wider community to listen, enjoy and participate in this unique community experience.

Programming

- Live output will typically comprise 75% music and 25% speech ('speech' excludes advertising, programme/promotional trails and sponsor credits).
- Music output will mainly comprise contemporary Christian music with specialist shows including rock, contemporary worship, new independent music, music related to the black church tradition and others. 90% of the music played will be from Christian artists.
- Speech output will include interviews, presenter led features, news bulletins, Christian content such as 'pause for thought' slots, local travel and weather, documentaries and outside broadcasts.
- The service will typically be live for at least 5 hours per day. (Live programming may include pre-recorded inserts, if applicable.) The majority of the output will be locally produced.

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”

- It is the station’s aim to specifically cater for the community of Christians in the area through Christian music and programming features with issues which are relevant to them.
- There will be programmes to engage with the youth market scheduled at times which best suit the listening habits of young people.

“(b) the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion”

- The station will invite a varied cross section of people from our local community as guests into the studios to chat on-air through issues and share their views and present various opinions to our listeners. We hope to dedicate two hours a day to this type of programming, however we would not limit ourselves to this should other occasions arise.
- The station will seek audience responses through telephone, SMS and a its website, allowing discussions to take place simultaneously on the radio and online, with the opportunity to share these through the radio programmes.

“(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 station aims to train over 50 people per year in media skills. It would look to offer its facilities as a resource for media training and work experience to University and College students within its target area. The station would like to be able to offer the chance for students be part of a weekly programme whereby they could have the experience of getting behind a microphone, along with other areas of the production and presentation process.
- The station would also look for opportunities to become involved with lessons and assemblies in schools, and maintain its links with a number of local youth organisations. The station plans to look into how it can involve students within their lessons, to give them a chance to experience aspects of the radio programme making process.
- The station will offer training and placements to those who have successfully been through rehabilitation or detox with the A WAY out service.

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

- The station hopes to be able to promote events which are there to unify the local Christian community.

- Through programming opportunities it hopes to raise the profile of what local churches and Christian groups are doing to support their communities.
- There are monthly events aimed at young people in the station's area that it hopes to become involved with to support and encourage the station activities.

Additional social gain objectives:

- The station aims to complete 4 outside broadcasts a year
- The station aims to host up to 3 times live music events throughout the year.

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 hopes to involve at least 30 volunteers over the year (working with us on a regular basis) plus a further 30 work experiences places (working on shorter term basis). Members of the community who are willing to abide by the station's ethos may be invited to join the management committee.
- The station will carry out on-air promotions to invite involvement from members of the community. The station will follow up any interest of offered time with an informal interview at its studios to gauge interest and to reach an agreement over what would be the most appropriate way for them to become involved, including any training required.
- The station will welcome the input of community groups and hopes that some might come forward wishing to try out a particular programming idea – with appropriate training offered - or simply to be interviewed. As well as waiting for these approaches to be made, it will also monitor the local newspaper so that it can identify such groups and actively invite them to take part.
- We will monitor the progress of the individuals to evaluate how they are getting on. We aim to do this through a mentoring system whereby the particular trainee is allocated a mentor to whom they are accountable to. It will be the mentors' responsibility to carry out the training, and also to also monitor progress.

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 will invite feedback of the service at every available opportunity. The station will actively invite feedback from its listeners; it will do this through a

number of avenues including on air promotions, mailshots, email and through its public annual general meeting meetings. The station will actively log any comments received via any of these methods.

- It is the station's intention to post out questionnaires on a 6-monthly basis to keep track of how it is living up to its listener's expectations.
- The station will also invite feedback from church contacts. It hopes to have a representative for the station in each of the churches in Stockton-on-Tees and Middlesbrough. This will give all the members of the congregation a direct point of contact to feed back suggestions and comments.
- All this feedback will be presented to the management team for a response, and be accountable for the running of the station. The management team will report to the station board of trustees and the leadership of the Tees Valley Christian Alliance, of which we the station is an associate group.
- The station will have a published complaints procedure.

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

April 2008.