

Note of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Ofcom Community Radio Fund Panel

Held on Friday 4 February 2022 via Microsoft Teams

Chair's Introduction

1. The Chair welcomed to the Panel meeting the members and broadcast licensing team representatives, who were in attendance for the whole meeting. The Panel formally welcomed Mark Jones as a member of the Panel.

Item 1: Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 August 2021

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 August 2021, previously circulated to the Panel, were **AGREED** as an accurate record.

Item 2: Matters arising

3. There were no matters arising that were not being dealt with under items of the Agenda.

Item 3: Grant reports and sector update

4. The Panel **HEARD** a verbal report on the community radio sector, including the support available to Community Radio stations during the pandemic and the current approach to analogue licensing.
5. The Panel were **INFORMED** about the progress of SSDAB licensing, including the licensing of a number of C-DSP services who would soon be able to apply for the Fund, with the launch of the first round of multiplexes.

Item 4: Community Radio Fund applications

6. The Panel **NOTED** that 69 applications had been submitted, requesting grants totalling £1,029,650.
7. The Panel gave full and careful consideration to each application and awarded grants which amounted to a total of £390,689 to 26 applicants. A total of 43 applications from those under consideration were not awarded grants.

Item 5: Summary of Decisions

8. The Panel **AGREED** that a statement would be drafted and signed off by the Chair on behalf of the Panel. This would then be published on Ofcom's website. It should include information on the grants, as well as issues of note, which were discussed and agreed by the Panel.

Item 6: Any Other Business

9. There was no other business to discuss.

Item 7: Date of Next Meeting

10. It was **AGREED** that the next meeting would be held after April 2022 to award grants for the next financial year. A specific date was not set.
11. There being no further business the meeting closed.