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To whom it may concern

**Response from Station House Media Unit to Ofcom's 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Service Broadcasting Review**

Station House Media Unit (SHMU) is a community media resource, managed by local people, serving the regeneration areas of North & Central Aberdeen. The organisation, a not for profit limited company, offers supports to its target communities to develop and take ownership of community media platforms and encourages, supports and trains local residents to populate those platforms with content.

SHMU holds a 5-year Community FM licence (commenced broadcasting on 20 October 2007), and is very keen to use the lessons learned from supporting the development of a full-time radio station in order to move towards developing a local TV service following the Digital Switchover in Aberdeen in 2010.

In terms of Radio and Public Service Broadcasting, we now find ourselves as the only full-time 'public service' broadcaster in the city – the 3<sup>rd</sup> city in Scotland. The BBC offers only two 7 minute news features per day from Aberdeen on Radio Scotland – that is the full contribution from the BBC in terms of its public service broadcasting from the city – a disgrace in terms of service delivery for a city of over 200,000. There are two commercial radio stations in the city, both of which offer a service based on music and entertainment and very little content in terms of PSB.

Over the last week our radio service (shmuFM) broadcast over 120 hours of live programming, much of which could and should be recognised as public service broadcasting, including, but not exclusively; community news shows; informational shows; public health shows; money advice shows; dedicated news programmes featuring local issues of concerns; interviews with local elected members; programmes dedicated to the Polish community in the city; and youth programming exploring issues that are important to the young presenters themselves.

As a community media resource, well respected locally, nationally and internationally, we are extremely concerned that this review does not consider widening out the definition of who is a public service broadcaster or public service content maker. There can be no doubt that community based media projects, whether broadcasting or online, are producers of public service content.

We urge Ofcom and the DCMS to consider funding models which include all producers of public service content, not just the incumbent national television producers and given the opportunity, we would be happy to contribute further to your review.

Yours Faithfully,

Murray Dawson  
**Project Director**