

Name and title under which you would like this response to appear:

J Bellamy, Cross Rhythms CEO

Representing:

Cross Rhythms

What are your comments on these proposals?:

As a member of CBC (Christian Broadcasting Council), the Council has made a general response on behalf of its members which we subscribe to.

As a Community Radio station in Stoke-on-Trent, and one of the original Access Radio pilot stations we would like to submit these additional thoughts into the consultation specifically with respect to Proposal 6:

6.1 The primary responsibility of a Community Station is its provision of Social Gain to the community it represents. In most cases certain Community of Interest stations provide Social Gain for the wider community(ies). It may be that for some stations the elements of social gain to that community would be different to other communities. The term 'Community Benefit' appears to us more appropriate and gives a little more flexibility for groups to justify the benefits they provide for their community. We support the suggestion to reconsider how 'social gain' is interpreted.

6.2 We agree with the suggestion, and would add that at least an ongoing strategy for finance for future years (next three) should be indicated.

6.3 We would suggest that 'catering for tastes and interests' does indeed carry some duplication with 'Social Gain' or more significantly the proposed term 'Community Benefit'. Indeed this latter phrase would be more of an umbrella term under which tastes and interests can come.

6.4 We see it important that nothing is lost to the Broad Choice criterion.

6.6 We agree with this suggestion

6.7 Accountability to target community is important and encourages relevance and actual value.

6.11 We agree with this suggestion

6.12 We agree that the current rule on plurality of ownership should be reconsidered. As a community of interest station we can provide a lot of synergy for other groups to deliver similar stations for their city. However, unless we have exceptionally strong collaborative relationships it is a concern how much we can give of support. A degree of ownership whether total or part would give more confidence to go in the direction of partnership to establish a station in another location.