

# Community Digital Sound Programme (C-DSP) licence

## Application form – Part A (public)

Name of applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

Inspire FM (trading name of House of Abraham)

Proposed service name:

Inspire FM

Radio multiplex service(s) on which the proposed C-DSP service is to be provided (note this must be a small-scale multiplex area either previously advertised or currently being advertised by Ofcom as shown in the multiplex licence advertisement)

University of Bedfordshire

Public contact details (i.e. Contact name and/or company name, company address, telephone number(s) and email):

House of Abraham T/A Inspire FM

234 Dallow Road, Luton

LU1 1TB

Tel: 01582 481810

Email: [admin@inspirefm.org](mailto:admin@inspirefm.org)

## Section

Overview

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# 1. Overview

You should complete this form if you are applying for a community digital sound programme licence (“C-DSP”). You can find further information about C-DSP services in the guidance notes for licensees and applicants.

This application form is divided into two parts – **Part A** (which we will publish on our website) and **Part B** (which will be kept confidential). This document constitutes Part A; **Part B of the application form** is available on our website.

If you encounter any issues using these forms, please contact [broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk).

## The purpose of this form

You should complete this form if you are applying for a Community Digital Sound Programme (C-DSP) licence.

A digital sound programme service intended for broadcast by means of a local or small-scale radio multiplex service requires either a C-DSP licence or a local DSP licence. Ofcom’s published guidance notes set out some of the key issues that potential applicants need to consider in deciding which type of licence is suitable for them. In summary, C-DSP services are not run for financial gain and are required to provide social gain. C-DSP licences therefore include strict conditions to ensure that happens, and provide less flexibility than a local DSP licence. However, they do provide access to capacity that small-scale radio multiplex service providers are required to reserve solely for C-DSP services.

A C-DSP licence will be required even if the same programme service is also provided on any other platforms (e.g. FM, satellite), as separate licences are required for those.

As noted above, small-scale radio multiplex services will have reserved capacity for C-DSP services. Issue of a C-DSP licence does not, however, guarantee carriage on a small-scale (or local) radio multiplex service. That is a matter for agreement between the C-DSP licensee and the multiplex service provider, and there may be more C-DSP licences issued in a locality than there are reserved slots on the small-scale radio multiplex service. Note that a C-DSP service does not necessarily have to broadcast using reserved capacity. It can use unreserved capacity on a small-scale radio multiplex service or capacity on a local radio multiplex service, again subject to agreement with the multiplex service provider.

An application for a C-DSP licence will be accepted only once Ofcom has advertised the licence for the small-scale radio multiplex service upon which the proposed C-DSP service is intended to be provided. There is no closing-date by which an application for a C-DSP licence must be submitted (i.e. it can be submitted at any time after the licence for the relevant small-scale radio multiplex licence has been advertised).

You can find further information about how to determine if a service requires a C-DSP licence in Section 2 of the **guidance notes for applicants and licensees**.

## Provision of information

Ofcom requires complete and accurate information to assess applications. This is so that we can assess your application against statutory criteria, consider whether those involved in the body applying for a licence are ‘fit and proper’ to hold a licence, and determine whether their involvement with other organisations disqualifies them from participation in a licence.

It is an offence under the Broadcasting Act 1996 (as amended) to provide false information or withhold relevant information during the application process, and may be grounds for revocation of

a licence subsequently granted.

## Publication of information about applications and licensed services

Information provided in **Part A** of the application form will typically be published by Ofcom in our Monthly Radio Update publication the month following the submission of your application. This may take longer if the application is received late in the month. Information provided in **Part B** will not be published.

In submitting this application you agree that, should a licence be granted, Ofcom may publish contact details for the licensee (specified in Section 2 of Part B of the application form), which may include personal data, on the Ofcom website and/or in other relevant publications. If you have any questions about the information that we publish, or there are any changes to this information, you should contact the Broadcast Licensing team by email ([broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk)).

Ofcom considers issued C-DSP licences to be public documents and copies of licences will be made available to third parties on request albeit, other than the Key Commitments which are tailored to the service, C-DSP licences are standard form documents. A brief description of the licensed service will be published on the Ofcom website, along with the Key Commitments which form part of the licence.

Ofcom publishes a **monthly radio licensing update** which lists new services licensed, new applications, licences revoked, licence transfers, and changes to licensed services during the past month.

## Data protection

We require the information requested in this form in order to carry out our licensing duties under the Broadcasting Act 1990, Broadcasting Act 1996 and Communications Act 2003. Please see Ofcom's **General Privacy Statement** for further information about how Ofcom handles your personal information and your corresponding rights.

## Keeping up to date with broadcasting matters

We strongly recommend that the appropriate person at the applicant body signs up to receive Ofcom's regular email updates on broadcasting matters including notification when the Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin is published.

To sign up to receive these communications, you must visit the **email updates** area of our website and select 'Broadcasting.'

## 2. Applicant's details

### About this section

In this section we are asking you for details about the applicant company. This must be a body corporate which is not profit distributing.

In the first part of this section, we are asking for basic details about the applicant. These include company registration number and contact information.

In the second part of this section we are asking for details of the applicant's officers (directors or, in the case of LLPs, designated members), its shareholders and participants. Where applicable, we are also asking for details of the officers of the applicant's parent and associated companies or LLPs etc.

If any of the individuals named in your responses are known by more than one name/version of their name, all names must be provided.

Certain persons are disqualified from holding a C-DSP licence. This section asks the questions which enable us to consider this for those types of disqualification which apply specifically to bodies corporate. It also asks questions which are relevant to our assessment of the applicant's fitness and properness to hold a C-DSP licence.

Before completing this section of the form, you should read Ofcom's guidance on the definition of 'control' of media companies. Throughout this section, "control" has the meaning it is given in Part I of Schedule 2 of the Broadcasting Act 1990.

The response boxes and tables should be expanded or repeated where necessary, or provided in a separate annex.

'Officerships' in this section refers to: directorships of bodies corporate, designated memberships of LLPs, or membership of a governing body of an unincorporated association (including partnerships).

### Applicant information and contact details

2.1. Name of applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

House of Abraham T/A Inspire FM

2.2. Company registration number stated on Companies House:

3484851

2.3. For UK registered companies, the address of the applicant's registered office stated on Companies House.

For non-UK registered companies, the principal office address:

234 Dallow Road

Luton, LU1 1TB

2.4. If a UK registered company, is the current Memorandum and Articles of Association document available on the Companies House website?

Yes       No

If no, please submit the up to date document and indicate you have done so in the checklist in Section 4 of Part B.

2.5. Contact details of the individual duly authorised by the applicant for the purposes of making this application. This individual should be the company secretary, a director or (if an LLP) designated member.

(If you are an agent completing the form on behalf of the applicant please do not enter your details here – see paragraph 2.25 of the guidance notes).

Full name	Mohammed Tariq
Job title	Station Operations Manager
Address	234 Dallow Road Luton LU1 1TB
Telephone	01582 481810
Mobile	07930 286000
Email	tariq@inspirefm.org

2.6. If the proposed Licensed Service has/will have a website, please provide the website address below.

<https://www.inspirefm.org>

2.7. How will the service be financed? If the applicant is receiving, or is likely to receive, any form of funding and/or financial assistance to establish and maintain the service, please provide details of who is providing that funding/financial assistance and the extent of it.

If you are receiving funding from, or on behalf of, a source that could be considered a political organisation or a religious body, you must set out the nature of that organisation here.

The applicant holds the Ofcom Community Radio licence (CR000198) and has operated under this licence since 2010. We are financially stable, obtaining funding from both on-air revenue (advertising and sponsorship), grant funding and community fund raising activities. House of Abraham operates Inspire FM on a not-for-profit basis, and all surpluses are reinvested into programming, volunteer training, and delivery of social gain objectives. We hold sufficient funds (as detailed in our reserves policy) to cover our core operating costs for 12 months.

## Ownership and control of the company which will hold the licence

### Details of officers, participants and shareholders of the applicant

2.8. Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to provide the following details for each director or designated member of the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence):

Full name of individual	Correspondence address <sup>1</sup>	Country of residence	Other officerships held (and nature of the business concerned)	Other employment
Zaffar Iqbal	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	United Kingdom	N/A	IT Project Manager
Zahid Chohan	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	United Kingdom	N/A	IT Project Manager
Faiz Nabi	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	United Kingdom	N/A	Litigation Support Manager
Oosman Ismail	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	United Kingdom	N/A	IT Project Manager

2.9. Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, amounting to more than 5% in the applicant (“participants”). If you are unable to provide a complete answer to this question in relation to beneficial owners, please state whether you have any reason to suspect the existence of any beneficial owners.

Full name of >5% participant (existing and pro-posed)	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
N/A				
Comments				
Company Limited by Guaranteed – no share holdings				

<sup>1</sup>This should be the same address as is held and published by Companies House.



- 2.10. Complete the following table, expanding if necessary, to identify any entities with which the applicant is affiliated. By affiliated, we mean companies that are related through ownership, either with one company being a minority shareholder in the other, or through multiple companies being owned by a third party.

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of the entity	Address
N/A	

- 2.11. Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list any bodies corporate which are controlled by the applicant, and their affiliates:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of the entity	Address	Affiliates
N/A		

#### Details of persons who control the applicant

- 2.12. Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all persons who control the applicant, together with their affiliates. If any persons or bodies control the applicant jointly because they act together in concert (e.g. because of a shareholder’s agreement), each such person must be identified here:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table.)

Full name of individual or body	Address	Affiliates
Zaffar Iqbal	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	N/A
Zahid Chohan	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	N/A
Faiz Nabi	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	N/A
Oosman Ismail	234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB	N/A

- 2.13. Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all officerships in other bodies that are held by any individual listed in response to question 2.12, and any affiliates of those bodies. An “officership” refers to being a director of a body corporate, designated member of a limited liability partnership, or member of the governing body of an unincorporated association:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond “N/A” in the table)

Full name of individual	Name of body in which officership held	Affiliates of that body
N/A		

- 2.14. Complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies corporate which are controlled by any body corporate listed in response to question 2.12, and their affiliates:

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond "N/A" in the table)

Full name of body corporate listed in 2.11	Body corporate controlled	Affiliates of body corporate controlled
N/A		

- 2.15. In relation to each body corporate identified in response to question 2.12, complete the following table, expanding it if necessary, to list all bodies which hold or are beneficially entitled to shares, or who possess voting powers, amounting to more than 5% in the body corporate concerned (i.e. "participants"). You may, but are not required to, exclude from this table any bodies listed in response to question 2.12. If you are unable to provide a complete answer to this question in relation to beneficial owners, please state whether you have any reason to suspect the existence of any beneficial owners.

(If this question is not applicable to the applicant please respond "N/A" in the table)

Name of body corporate identified in response to question 2.11				
Full name of >5% participant	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
N/A				
Comments				

## Involvement of the applicant in specified activities

2.16. Please state below whether the applicant, or any of the directors, shareholders or other individuals named above, including their associates (i.e. directors of their associates and other group companies), is, or is involved in, any of the below, and the extent of that interest.

Activity/involvement	Yes / No	Please state who is involved; the name of the body/individual/agency they are involved with; and the extent of their involvement
a) A local authority	No	
b) A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a political nature, or which is affiliated to such a body	No	
c) A body whose objects are wholly or mainly of a religious nature; <sup>2</sup>	No	
d) An individual who is an officer of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	
e) A body corporate which is an associate (as defined in paragraphs 1(1) and 1(1A) of Part I of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990) of a body falling within (b) or (c);	No	
f) An advertising agency or an associate of an advertising agency	No	

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<sup>2</sup>Please refer to Sections 3 to 5 of Ofcom's religious guidance note for details on how we determine the eligibility of religious bodies to hold certain broadcasting licences.

### Details of applications, licences and sanctions

2.17. Is the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) a current licensee of Ofcom?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the licence details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of multiplex
CR000198	Community Radio Licence (Inspire FM, Analogue FM Service)

2.18. Has the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) held an Ofcom broadcasting licence before?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
CR000198	Inspire FM (Community Radio License)

Has anyone involved in the proposed service held an Ofcom broadcasting licence or been involved in an Ofcom-licensed broadcast service before?

Yes       No

If yes, please provide the details expanding the table if necessary:

Dates licence was held or dates of involvement	Licence number (if known)	Name of service or multiplex
2010 to present	CR000198	Inspire FM (Community Radio License)

2.19. Does the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) control an existing Ofcom licensee?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide the licence details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex

2.20. Is the applicant (i.e. the body corporate that will hold the licence) controlled by an existing licensee or by any person who is connected (within the meaning of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990) with an existing licensee (i.e. as a “participant”)?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide the following information, expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex

2.21. Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant - made any other application to Ofcom (or its predecessor broadcast regulators – the Independent Television Commission and the Radio Authority) for any licence which has since been surrendered by the licensee or revoked by Ofcom (or one of its predecessor regulators)?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide the following information, expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex

2.22. Is the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant - subject to any current or pending investigation by any statutory regulatory or government body in the United Kingdom or abroad in respect of any broadcast-related matter?

Yes       **No**

If yes, please provide the following details expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number (or equivalent)	Name of service or multiplex	Details of the investigation

2.23. Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – ever been subject to a statutory sanction for contravening a condition of a broadcasting licence in the UK or any other jurisdiction?

Yes       **No**

If yes, please provide the following details relating to each sanction expanding the table if necessary:

Licence number (or equivalent)	Name of service or multiplex	Nature of the breach	Sanction imposed	Date sanction imposed

2.24. Has the applicant – or any person(s) controlling the applicant – ever been convicted of an unlicensed broadcasting offence?

Yes       **No**

If yes, please provide the following details:

Full name	Date of conviction/action (dd/mm/yy)	Penalty

- 2.25. Please provide any further information you hold, relating to the past conduct of the applicant or those individuals listed, in regulatory matters or in matters going to honesty and/or compliance, which may be relevant to Ofcom's consideration of whether or not the applicant is fit and proper to hold a broadcast licence. If the applicant or the form signatory fails without reasonable excuse at this point to declare any matter of which Ofcom subsequently becomes aware, and which we do consider to be relevant to the applicant's eligibility to hold a licence, we will take it into account in determining the question of whether the applicant/licensee remains fit and proper to hold a licence.

If you have no information to provide, please respond "N/A".

N/A

# 3. The proposed service

## About this section

This section asks you to describe your proposed service, including the Key Commitments you propose to include in your licence. This includes your service name, multiplex name and character of service, in addition to standard commitments that all C-DSP licensees need to abide by. Holders of an existing analogue community radio licence to be a simul-cast on the proposed C-DSP service can replicate the existing analogue key commitments as it is our expectation that the key commitments for simulcast services are to be in keeping with one another. If a licence is granted, the information you provide in this section will be used to form the basis of the annex to your licence. You will only be authorised to broadcast what is detailed in the annex of the licence.

In this section, you will also need to set out how your service will provide social gain, community participation and how you will be accountable to the target community. This is in line with statutory requirements for the granting of C-DSP licences. **The information provided in this section is also the basis on which decisions are made.**

If you hold, or intend to hold, multiple C-DSP licences, the answers given in this section and the intended delivery of your Key Commitments must apply to the locality in which your proposed service will broadcast (as set out in the Draft Key Commitments in this application form).

## Your proposed service and target community

3.1. What is the proposed service name?

Inspire FM

3.2. On which radio multiplex service do you intend to broadcast? If the relevant radio multiplex licence has not yet been awarded, please state the name of the area that the multiplex service is intended to cover, as defined in the multiplex licence advertisement.

University of Bedfordshire

3.3. Where is your proposed studio located? Please note that this must be located within the coverage area of the small-scale radio multiplex service identified in answer to 3.2 (or the advertised area for a small-scale radio multiplex service that has not yet been awarded).<sup>3</sup>

234 Dallow Road, Luton, LU1 1TB.

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<sup>3</sup>If you propose to provide your service on a local, rather than a small-scale, radio multiplex service, there is no requirement for your studio to be located within the licensed area of that local radio multiplex service.

- 3.4. If the proposed service is a simulcast or corresponding service of an existing licensed radio service, please list that below and provide the licence number.

CR000198

- 3.5. What is the target community of the service? Please include the geographical area that you wish to serve in addition to the interests or characteristics that define your target community. The area you wish to serve must be geographically located within the cover-age area of the radio multiplex service on which you intend to broadcast. **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

Inspire FM serves the diverse communities of Luton and surrounding areas, including families, young people, ethnic minorities, and faith aligned audiences seeking culturally relevant content. The service delivers programming centred on personal development, family wellbeing, community information, spiritual guidance, education, and local grassroots initiatives. Inspire FM aims to promote cohesion, highlight local issues, and amplify community voices across Luton.

- 3.6. How will you ensure that your proposed C-DSP service is run on a not-for-profit basis? Please give details of specific measures or arrangements in place to ensure this, and how any profit will be wholly and exclusively used for securing or improving the future provision of the service, or for the delivery of social gain. **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

We have held an Ofcom Community Radio licence since 2010. We operate under (and are reviewed against) the funding requirements of that licence.

House of Abraham is a not-for-profit organisation, governed by a structure ensuring no profits are distributed. All income is reinvested into radio operations, equipment, volunteer training, and community social gain activities. Inspire FM maintains financial transparency, follows governance policies, and uses reserves responsibly.

## Social gain

- 3.7. What community benefits will your service bring to your target community(ies) and, if applicable, the general public. Please include summaries of evidence to support your answer, including details about other organisations you intend to work with. **Answer in fewer than 500 words.** Please do not provide names of individuals in your answer.

Inspire FM provides tangible social gain through educational content, youth engagement initiatives, charity partnerships, mental health and wellbeing programming, and representation of underserved communities. The station works closely with local mosques, schools, community centres, food banks, charities, and local authorities. Programming increases awareness of support services, celebrates cultural events, and offers platforms for community dialogue. This reinforces social cohesion and strengthens local identity. Our website, including the programme archive, is the best indicator of our output and community engagement.

- 3.8. Please summarise how your service will facilitate discussion and the expression of opinion.  
**Answer in fewer than 200 words.**

Our programming is produced by local people. In addition, a significant proportion of our programming features guests and interviews from our community. People can engage with the station via phone, text, email and social media. Guests can participate by visiting our studio or by remote contribution.

Our website archive provides a rich selection of our locally focussed content.

- 3.9. How will you ensure that members of your target community(ies) can gain access to the facilities used to provide your service, and receive training in using these? In particular, please set out how this will be done practically, formally and/or informally. **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

Inspire FM ensures that members of our target communities can access our facilities and receive appropriate training through a structured, transparent, and inclusive approach. All community members are able to apply to volunteer, after which they are invited to an induction session at our broadcast premises. This provides direct access to the studios, production equipment, and workspaces used in the delivery of our services.

Training is provided through both formal and informal methods. Formally, volunteers receive structured instruction in presenting, audio production, research, interviewing, compliance, and technical operations. These sessions are delivered by experienced volunteers, including individuals with professional broadcasting backgrounds, ensuring a consistent and high-quality learning experience. Informally, volunteers gain practical skills through shadowing, supervised practice, and one-to-one mentoring during live and prerecorded programming. This blended approach ensures that individuals with varying levels of prior experience can develop competence at an appropriate pace.

To broaden access and create clear pathways into media, Inspire FM works in partnership with schools, colleges, universities, and community groups. Through these collaborations, we provide work experience placements and introductory training sessions that allow young people and aspiring practitioners to gain firsthand experience in a functioning media environment. These arrangements ensure that underrepresented groups and those unfamiliar with the sector can engage with our facilities in a structured and supportive manner.

Community visibility and accessibility are further strengthened through our presence at local events and active digital engagement, which ensure that opportunities are widely promoted. Over the past decade, we have continually refined our onboarding and development processes to ensure they are inclusive, straightforward, and responsive to the needs of our volunteers.

With more than 100 active volunteers, Inspire FM maintains a well-established, practical, and community centred system that ensures broad access to facilities and effective training in their use.

- 3.10. How will your service provide better understanding of your target community and the strengthening of links within it? **Answer in fewer than 200 words.**

Inspire FM provides a community operated- broadcast platform designed to strengthen connections and improve understanding across our target community. We actively cover local news, community events, and issues that matter to residents, ensuring that diverse voices and experiences are represented. By highlighting the work of local organisations, profiling community leaders, and sharing positive initiatives, the station helps listeners gain a deeper understanding of one another's backgrounds, needs, and contributions.

Our presence at local events and partnerships with community groups further reinforce these links by creating direct engagement between the station and the people we serve. These interactions inform our programming and ensure it reflects real community priorities. Through inclusive content, interviews, and discussions, Inspire FM fosters dialogue, encourages collaboration, and promotes unity among different segments of the community.

By providing a trusted, accessible space for residents to share stories and perspectives, the station plays a meaningful role in building cohesion and strengthening community ties.

- 3.11. Please summarise the relevant experience of the group or its members in activities related to the provision of social gain or other relevant non-broadcast areas (such as third sector, training or education). **Answer in fewer than 200 words.**

Inspire FM have substantial and long-established experience in delivering social gain activities and supporting wider third sector, training, and educational initiatives. The organisation has consistently engaged volunteers from diverse backgrounds, providing structured induction, mentoring, and skills development that enhance individual confidence, employability, and community participation. This includes training in media production, communication, teamwork, and digital skills.

In addition to ongoing volunteer engagement, the organisation has hosted numerous work experience students from local schools, colleges, and universities, offering supervised, practical exposure to community broadcasting and related technical and editorial tasks. Inspire FM volunteers also undertake regular outreach within local schools and voluntary groups, delivering sessions focused on media literacy, digital awareness, and community development.

Members of the organisation bring longstanding experience in community broadcasting, charity sector service delivery, youth mentoring, event organisation, and educational outreach. This collective expertise ensures that the station's nonbroadcast activities deliver clear and measurable social benefit, aligned with Ofcom's social gain requirements and the objectives of a community focused service.

## Participation

- 3.12. How do you propose to ensure that members of your target community(ies) are given

opportunities to participate in the operation and management of the service? **Answer in fewer than 400 words.**

Inspire FM ensures that members of our target community have clear and accessible opportunities to participate in the operation and management of the service. Our volunteer pathway is open to all residents, supported by a simple onboarding process published on our website. We welcome new volunteers throughout the year and actively promote opportunities through broadcasts, social media, community events, and partnerships with local organisations.

More than 100 volunteers currently contribute to the station across presenting, programme production, research, technical support, compliance, digital content, and community liaison. Tens of community guests feature each week, and residents regularly contribute programme ideas, event collaborations, and community driven segments. This ensures a broad range of local voices are represented in our output.

We also work with schools, colleges, universities, and community groups to encourage participation from young people and under-represented communities, providing structured opportunities to engage with station operations.

Participation in management is supported through the involvement of experienced volunteers in project planning, programme coordination, advisory discussions, and policy development. Volunteers are encouraged to take on leadership responsibilities as their skills grow, enabling them to influence the station's direction and strengthen community representation in decision-making.

Through this open and inclusive model, Inspire FM provides meaningful, ongoing opportunities for community members to shape both the day today operation and the strategic development of the service.

## Accountability

3.13. How will members of your target community contact your service and influence its operation? **Answer in fewer than 300 words.**

Members of our target community can contact Inspire FM easily through multiple open channels, including telephone, email, text, WhatsApp, social media platforms, and in person visits to the station. These routes ensure that residents can provide feedback, raise concerns, and contribute ideas at any time. Our website also offers a "Events" section where local groups can submit information about their events; these are regularly highlighted on-air and often lead to guest interviews or feature segments, enabling community organisations to shape programming directly.

We maintain ongoing communication with interested listeners through a regular newsletter, which provides updates on station activities and invites suggestions for future content. Volunteers have additional structured avenues to influence station operations through an active forum, regular briefings, and access to meeting minutes, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Inspire FM provides a formal platform for volunteers and community members to ask questions, propose ideas, and contribute to discussions about the direction of the service. Community feedback is reviewed by the management team and incorporated into programme development, outreach activities, and operational

decisions.

Through these open communication channels, transparent governance processes, and active engagement systems, Inspire FM ensures that members of our target community can influence both day-to-day operations and the broader development of the service.

- 3.14. How will suggestions and/or criticisms from members of your target community(ies) be considered and acted upon? **Answer in fewer than 300 words.**

Inspire FM has a clear process for receiving and responding to suggestions and criticisms from the community. Feedback can be submitted through phone, email, WhatsApp, social media, our website, or in person. All comments are acknowledged promptly and reviewed objectively. Public feedback receives a timely and transparent response. Relevant suggestions are shared with programme teams or management for action, and operational issues are discussed at internal meetings. Volunteers may also raise matters through the online. This structured approach ensures community input directly informs programming, operations, and continual service improvement.

## Draft Key Commitments

Below is an example of the licence annex where the Key Commitments appear. Should a licence be awarded, the entries you provide below will form the Key Commitments section of your licence. Holders of a community radio analogue licence that is to be simulcast, or a corresponding service, are expected to provide key commitments that are in line with their existing service(s). As such, applicants may refer to the existing key commitments of the relevant simulcast or corresponding service(s) to ensure that the draft below is in line with those of the existing service(s).

Please provide entries where specified in **BOLD** below. The information you enter here should reflect your answers to Sections 3 and 4 of the Part A of your completed Application Form. This will form the basis of your Key Commitments alongside the mandatory text in italics. Do not amend the text in italics as every service is required to comply with these requirements, but the details of how each service does so do not need to be included in the Key Commitments.

### ANNEX TO LICENCE

LICENSED SERVICE NO                      tbc

Licensed Service	< <b>Inspire FM</b> (the on-air name of the programme service as in question 3.1 of this application)>
Service Description	<p>&lt;<b>Inspire FM</b>&gt; is a radio service intended to serve</p> <p>NOTE: The next 3 headings below are the components of the ‘character of service’.</p> <p>&lt;<b>Residents of Luton and surrounding areas, particularly diverse and faith aligned community groups</b>&gt; <i>in</i></p> <p>&lt;<b>Luton and surrounding areas</b>&gt; NOTE: this can be all, or a subset of, the area covered by the radio multiples service described in the next column&gt; (<i>“the target community”</i>) by</p> <p>&lt;<b>Inspire FM provides volunteer produced, community focused programming with educational, cultural, religious, informational, and entertainment content. It promotes social gain, community participation, training, and intercommunity understanding.</b>&gt;</p> <p>The studio of the Licensed Service is located within the coverage area of the Small-Scale Radio Multiplex Service identified above (n.b. the Licensee will not be in breach of this requirement if an existing studio ceases to fall within the coverage area merely as a result of technical changes to the Small-Scale Radio Multiplex Service outside the control of the Licensee).</p> <p>The Licensed Service shall have the characteristics of a Community Digital Sound Programme Service as set out in the 2019 Order and, in so doing, shall achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion,</li> <li>☐ the provision (whether by means of programmes included in the service or otherwise) of education or training to individuals not employed by the person providing the service, and</li> </ul>

	<p>☐ the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of links within it.</p> <p>Members of the target community shall contribute to the operation and management of the service.</p> <p>The service shall have mechanisms in place to ensure it is accountable to its target community in the specific area or locality.</p>
Transmission Schedule	24/7
Multiplex	< <b>University of Bedfordshire</b> (as per the licence advert): as in question 3.2 of this application, specify if small-scale or local multiplex the radio station plans to broadcast on>

# 4. Compliance of the service

## About this section

This section asks you to describe the compliance arrangements for the proposed licensed service, i.e. the arrangements which the applicant will put in place to ensure that the content it proposes to broadcast will comply with the relevant regulatory codes and rules for programming and advertising. These include:

- The Ofcom Broadcasting Code
- The BCAP Code: the UK Code of Broadcast Advertising
- The Regulation of Premium Rate Services Order

Condition 17 of a C-DSP licence requires that you have compliance procedures in place, and this section asks that you demonstrate your ability to meet this licence condition.

Before completing this section of the form you should read Section 4 of the C-DSP guidance notes, where you will also find links to the codes and rules listed above.

- 4.1. Please give details of all compliance training (including dates) the person named in response to either question 2.3 or 2.5 in Part B (i.e. the individual who holds overall responsibility for compliance of the service) has received in the relevant codes and rules (for example, those referred to in the box at the start of this section).

Compliance oversight is provided by Rashid Nazar, who has several years of management experience within the broadcasting industry and has received ongoing internal compliance training since joining the organisation. His training has covered the Ofcom Broadcasting Code, the Community Radio Key Commitments, elections and due impartiality rules, complaints handling, safeguarding related broadcast obligations, and procedures for managing on-air contributors.

Rashid is supported by the Station Operations Manager, Mohammed Tariq, who also receives regular internal compliance training and has practical experience implementing day-to-day compliance procedures. In addition, a board member with over 15 years of professional broadcast industry experience provides periodic updates and training sessions to ensure the station maintains an UpToDate understanding of Ofcom's codes and requirements.

Training is delivered through documented internal sessions, updated guidance notes, and refresher workshops for staff and volunteers. This ensures the designated compliance lead remains current with regulatory standards and is able to oversee the service effectively.

- 4.2. Please give details of any practical compliance experience (including dates) the person named in response to either question 2.3 or 2.5 in Part B (i.e the individual who holds overall responsibility for compliance of the service) has with respect to the relevant codes and rules.

Compliance oversight is led by Rashid Nazir, who has several years of practical

experience applying the Ofcom Broadcasting Code within Inspire FM. In his role as Compliance Manager, he routinely monitors output, reviews programme content, manages complaints, and provides on-air guidance to presenters to ensure adherence to rules on harm and offence, impartiality, elections, fairness, and privacy.

Rashid also maintains the station's compliance training materials and delivers briefings to volunteers. He is supported by the Station Manager, who assists with day-to-day implementation of compliance procedures during live and prerecorded programming.

- 4.3. For each role within your compliance team please provide job title and a brief description of the functions of the role specific to ensuring compliance of the proposed service. Please do not give names of individual members of staff – this question relates to job roles rather than currently employed individuals.

**Compliance Manager**

Ensures the service meets all Ofcom regulatory requirements. Monitors output, reviews content before broadcast, manages complaints, and maintains and delivers compliance training and materials.

**Station Manager**

Implements compliance procedures in day-to-day operations. Ensures all volunteers receive required compliance training before studio access and provides ongoing updates and support to maintain adherence to regulatory standards.

- 4.4. How does the applicant intend to formally train staff in compliance procedures? Please include details of the compliance training that will be given to those responsible for live programming, including compliance staff, presenters and producers.

As an existing holder of an Ofcom Community Radio licence, compliance training is part of our onboarding process. All volunteers need to undertake this training, which needs to be signed off by the trainer, before being allowed to broadcast.

- 4.5. Will the training described in response to question 4.5 be mandatory for all staff and volunteers? If not, outline who will receive it.

Yes, for all staff and volunteers who are involved with on-air activities.

- 4.6. It is a licence requirement that a licensee must ensure that all programming on its service (broadcast at any time of the day or night) complies with Ofcom's codes and rules (e.g. Ofcom's Broadcasting Code, which sets requirements on standards to be observed in

programme content for the protection of the public).

- a) Set out in detail below the systems the applicant intends to have in place to ensure it will be able to comply with the codes and rules when the service is broadcasting live content. Your response should include details of what you will do to prepare presenters and guests pre-broadcast and the process for ensuring that any non-complaint content is dealt with swiftly during the broadcast.

Inspire FM has clear systems to ensure all live content complies with Ofcom's codes. All presenters and volunteers must complete compliance training before going on air, and guests receive a pre-broadcast briefing outlining expectations around language, accuracy, and sensitive subjects. During live output, trained presenters monitor discussions, intervene when needed, and escalate any concerns immediately to the Compliance Manager or Station Manager. If noncompliant content is broadcast, presenters issue an on-air clarification or correction where appropriate, and the incident is logged for review. Regular monitoring and feedback sessions reinforce good practice and ensure ongoing compliance.

- b) Set out in detail below how the applicant intends to ensure that pre-recorded material will comply with Ofcom's codes and rules. Pre-recorded content could include, for example, material obtained from, or streamed from, third party sources as well as content produced by the licensee.

All third-party material is reviewed prior to broadcast to ensure full compliance with Ofcom's codes and rules. Internally produced content is created and/or reviewed only by volunteers who have successfully completed the station's compliance training programme. Prerecorded programmes are checked for accuracy, appropriate language, and any potential compliance risks before being approved for transmission. Only material that meets the Station's compliance standards is scheduled for broadcast.

- 4.7. Please set out how you will ensure the ongoing delivery/compliance of the **on-air** character of service as set out in the Key Commitments. This should be focused on the content you will broadcast on the station.

In your answer, please ensure you include details on each of the following points:

- a) How you will monitor that the character of service is being delivered;
- b) who will be responsible for monitoring this;
- c) how often will they monitor it;
- d) how you ensure this information is published; and
- e) where the information will be published/made publicly available.

Inspire FM monitors delivery of its Key Commitments through regular review of programme output and schedules. The Station Manager, supported by the Compliance Manager, is responsible for ensuring all content aligns with the station's

licensed character of service. Monitoring is carried out on a monthly basis, with additional quarterly checks informing our annual Ofcom report.

As an existing Ofcom licensed community station, we continue to submit a full Key Commitments report each year. Key performance information and progress against the character of service are shared openly with volunteers and presenters at our annual Presenters/Volunteers Night, where all relevant updates are disclosed. Summary information is also provided through internal communications where appropriate.

These processes ensure continuous oversight, accountability, and transparent delivery of the station's licensed character of service.

- 4.8. Please set out how you will ensure the ongoing delivery/compliance of the **off-air** social gain activities as set out in the Key Commitments.

In your answer, please ensure you include details on each of the following points:

- a) How you will monitor that off-air social gain activities are being delivered;
- b) who will be responsible for monitoring this;
- c) how often will they monitor it;
- d) how you ensure this information is published; and
- e) where the information will be published/made publicly available.

a) Monitoring delivery

Off-air social gain activities such as volunteer training, outreach sessions, and work experience placements are tracked through internal logs, attendance records, and activity reports.

b) Responsibility

The Station Manager oversees this monitoring, supported by the Compliance Manager and relevant team leads.

c) Frequency

Activities are reviewed quarterly, with key information feeding into the annual Ofcom return.

d) Publishing the information

A summary of off-air social gain delivery is collated annually for transparency.

e) Public availability

This information is shared at the annual Presenters/Volunteers Night and through internal updates and may also be included in reports for third-party funders.

- 4.9. What language(s) does the applicant intend to broadcast in?

English, Urdu, Arabic, Bangla

- 4.10. For each language listed in response to question 4.9 please provide details of how many compliance team member(s) are fluent in each language and will be responsible for ensuring that content broadcast in that language complies with the Ofcom's code and rules. **Please do**

**not give names of individual members of staff.**

Inspire FM ensures full regulatory compliance across all broadcast languages. The compliance structure for multilingual output is as follows:

**English:** All compliance team members are fluent in English and are responsible for monitoring and reviewing all English language content to ensure adherence to Ofcom's Broadcasting Code.

**Urdu:** At least two members of the compliance team are fluent in Urdu and review all Urdu language programming to ensure it meets Ofcom's rules and standards.

**Bangla:** At least one member of the compliance team is fluent in Bangla and is responsible for reviewing and monitoring all Bangla language content for compliance.

**Arabic:** All Arabic language content is prerecorded. It is fully vetted prior to transmission by an experienced production team that has received compliance training, ensuring all material meets Ofcom requirements before broadcast.

**Live Output:** All live multilingual broadcasts are supervised in real time by bilingual compliance monitors who can immediately respond to any compliance concerns.

**Technology Support:** Inspire FM is also introducing AI assisted translation and compliance checking tools to strengthen oversight of multilingual content and support consistent application of Ofcom's codes.

# 5. Declaration

## About this section

This form must be submitted by the applicant named in response to question 2.2. An agent may not sign the form.

The person authorised to make the declaration on behalf of the applicant must print their name and must be one of the following:

- A director of the company or the company secretary where the applicant is a company.
- A designated member where the applicant is a Limited Liability Partnership.

The declaration must also be dated.

- 5.1. I hereby apply to Ofcom for the grant of a licence for the community digital sound programme service described above and declare that the information given in this application form is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.
- 5.2. I further declare and warrant:
- a) that I am not a disqualified person within the meaning of that expression as defined in Part II of Schedule 2 to the Broadcasting Act 1990, as amended, or as a result of a disqualification order under Section 145 of the Broadcasting Act 1996;
  - b) that having made all reasonable enquiries neither the applicant nor any person controlling the applicant, as a result of the grant to me of the licence, breach any requirement of Schedule 14 to the Communications Act 2003 with regard to the accumulation of interests in broadcasting services or to the restrictions on cross-media interests; and
  - c) that the applicant is not disqualified by virtue of the provisions of section 143 (5) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 in relation to political objects and the provisions of section 144 (3) of the Broadcasting Act 1996 in relation to the provision of false information or through the withholding of information with the intention of misleading Ofcom; and
  - d) that no director or person concerned directly or indirectly in the management of the applicant is subject to a disqualification order as defined by section 145 (1) of the Broadcasting Act 1996.
- 5.3. I understand that Ofcom reserves the right to revoke the licence (if granted) if at any time any material statement made to Ofcom is found to be false and to have been by the applicant or any member or officer thereof knowing it to be false. I also understand that under sections 144 and 145 of the Broadcasting Act 1996, the provision of false information could incur a criminal conviction and a disqualification from the holding of a Broadcasting Act licence. I further certify that, to the best of my knowledge, any matters which might influence Ofcom's judgement as to whether the directors and any other individuals and/or bodies corporate with substantial involvement in this application are fit and proper persons to participate in a radio licence, have been made known to Ofcom.

**Full name (BLOCK CAPITALS) of the applicant or person authorised to make the application of behalf of the applicant:**

ZAFFAR IQBAL

**Date of application:**

05/03/2026

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant in my capacity as **(delete as appropriate)**:  
Company secretary / company director / designated member (in the case of a Limited Liability Partnership)

**You also need to complete the confidential section (Part B) of the application form.**