

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):

Platform B CIC

Proposed service name:

Platform B

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)

Brighton DAB

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

Natalie Spada, 11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ, hello@platformb.org.uk

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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.

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).

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 propriety 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):

Platform B CIC

2.2 Company registration number stated on Companies House:

09826111

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:

11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ

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

✓Yes

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	Ms. Natalie Spada
Job title	Non-executive Project Director - Platform B
Address	11 Old Steine Brighton BN1 1EJ
Telephone	07460 987907
Mobile	07460 987907
Email	hello@platformb.org.uk

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

www.platformb.org.uk

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 service will be financed by existing income - grant funding, live events & sponsorships.
The service will not carry commercial spot advertising.

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 ¹	Country of residence	Other officerships held (and nature of the business concerned)	Other employment
Robert Joseph Brown	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	Directorships: The New Society Ltd (Artistic creation), Brighton People's Theatre CIC (Performing arts)	Creative Communities Producer, Music manager, Youth worker
Andrew John Mailing	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	Directorships: Connectica Ltd (Technology Consultancy)	Consultant Technologist
Dean Antony Marsh	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	Directorships: Creative Law & Business Ltd (Solicitor/Law) 3 Brunswick Place (Hove) Ltd (Residents property management)	Solicitor
Daniel Alexander Julian Nathan	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	Directorships: Brighton & Hove Radio Ltd; Festival Online Ltd; Festival Productions Ltd; OpenDAB Brighton & Hove CIC; Platform B CIC; OpenDAB CIC: Brighton & Hove Digital Radio CIC,;	Project Director

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

			<p>South of The River Digital Radio Ltd. <i>(Radio broadcasting and radio & music technology)</i></p> <p>Old Court House Residents Ltd; Parochial Mews & Flats Courtyard Ltd <i>(Residents property management)</i></p> <p>Valley Gardens Forum CIC <i>(Professional membership activities)</i></p> <p>Hopshire Investments <i>(Real estate lettings)</i></p> <p>Langham Trading Ltd <i>(Textile agents)</i></p>	
Philip Nelson	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	<p>Directorships:</p> <p>Pathways Into Music CIC <i>(Cultural Education)</i></p>	Lecturer
Natalie Spada	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	none	Project Manager
Will Taylor	11 Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1EJ	UK	<p>Directorships:</p> <p>WTBM Ltd <i>(Accounting/Auditing)</i></p>	Chartered Accountant

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 proposed)	Number of shares	Total investment (£s)	Total investment (%)	% of voting rights
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Comments				
N/A				

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	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	N/A	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
N/A	N/A	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	N/A	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	N/A	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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Comments				
N/A				

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; ²	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	

² 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

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

Licence number	Name of multiplex
CR101275BA/1	FM community radio
DP102703BA/1	Trial Brighton
DP101070BA/1	Trial Brighton
CDP105010BA/1	Manchester DAB
CDP105770BA/1	London South DAB

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

✓Yes

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

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
DP102703BA/1	Platform B (DAB)
CR101275BA/1	Platform B FM
DP101070BA/1	Slack City
CDP105010BA/1	Slack City MCR
CDP105770BA/1	Slack City LDN

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

✓Yes

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
March 1998 - August 2018	AL000211BA/6	Juice 107.2 Brighton
September 2018 - present	CR101275BA/1 DP102703BA/1	Platform B
July 2015 - present	DP101070BA/1 CDP105010BA/1	Slack City Brighton Slack City MCR

	CDP105770BA/1	Slack City LDN
July 2015 - present	SSDABWT012	Trial Brighton
June 2023 - present	DS104327	Manchester DAB
Nov 2025 - present	DS105104	London South

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

No

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

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
N/A	N/A

2.21 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”)?

No

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

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
N/A	N/A

2.22 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)?

No

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

Licence number	Name of service or multiplex
N/A	N/A

2.23 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?

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
N/A	N/A	N/A

2.24 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?

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
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

No

If yes, please provide the following details:

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

2.26 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?

Platform B

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.

Brighton DAB

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).³

Unit 10, Cobblers Thumb, 10 New England Rd, Brighton BN1 4GG

³ 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.

Platform B FM - CR101275BA/1

- 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.**

Platform B is the only radio station in Brighton & Hove presented entirely by 16–24-year-olds. Led by the next generation of DJs, producers and presenters, the station is reimagining and diversifying radio with an eclectic mix of music and youth-focused programming. It showcases the sounds being created in bedroom studios, taught at music colleges, and performed across the city - from youth clubs and small stages to nightclubs. Each year, Platform B also engages, trains, and supports a dynamic team of over 100 volunteers, providing hands-on experience in broadcasting, production and creative media.

Platform B broadcasts to an audience of approximately 30,000 monthly listeners across Brighton & Hove. The city's total population is 283,870, according to the latest 2024 ONS mid-year population estimates. Brighton & Hove has a uniquely young demographic: 24% of residents (67,110 people) are aged 19-31, compared with 15% in the South East and 17% across England. This difference is particularly striking among those aged 19–22, who make up 10% of the city's population (27,250 people) - more than double the proportion in the South East (4%) and significantly above the England average (5%).

The city is home to approximately 35,885 University students at any one time, many who stay in the city after their studies. The community that we propose to serve is the population broadly from 16-24, young adults that are in education in the city, working or are in the catch all category of 'NEETs' - young people who are no longer in the education system and who are not working or being trained for work.

According to the ONS, in June 2025 there were 948,000 young people aged 16-24 in the UK not in education, employment or training (NEET). This highlights the urgent need for pathways that provide skills, confidence-building and work experience. Platform B provides hands-on training, mentoring and a public platform for young people to showcase their creativity, develop transferable skills and build the networks that open up employment or education opportunities.

Source:

[ONS - Local indicators for Brighton and Hove](#)

[ONS - Young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\), UK: August 2025](#)

[JSNA Population in Brighton & Hove Executive Summary](#)

[Brighton & Hove JSNA summary July 2025 Population](#)

- 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.**

Platform B is operated by Platform B CIC, a community interest company limited by guarantee without share capital - and so runs as a not-for-profit. Any surplus is put back into the project's activities and the general running costs - including the maintenance and replacement of equipment. This will benefit both the community's voices and the community who is listening to the service. The company's Articles of Association set out the project's mission and how all profits are to be reinvested with the aim of improving the service and enhancing its social gain.

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.

Social Gain

Platform B is currently the only radio station in Brighton & Hove presented by 16 - 24 yr olds and has become a leading youth culture platform in the city. Platform B is also a support network, giving a voice to those under-represented and marginalised from mainstream media, encouraging and empowering them to articulate and express their views.

-To work with youth groups, colleges and the city's two universities to enhance educational and vocational opportunities.

-To be a platform for emerging talent in the city.

-To provide industry networking possibilities to those interested in the arts and media.

-To increase engagement by young people in the wider community.

-Strengthen community cohesion across different groups in the city.

-To provide an environment that highlights the positive representation of the community.

-To promote best practice health and welfare advice throughout the target group.

Platform B seeks to nurture creativity, dialogue and community involvement, with the overarching goal of improving mental health, building confidence and increasing employability of young people facing barriers to engage with the creative industries because of their economic or social background, ethnicity, neurodiversity, sexuality and/or gender.

Creating Career Pathways

Volunteers at Platform B benefit from its extensive network of music industry partners, including local grassroots music venues, record labels, established artists, festivals, music publishers and music promotion agencies. This network provides invaluable opportunities

for collaboration and mentorship but also offers access to industry insights, resources and opportunities for career pathways in music and radio.

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

Platform B provides a platform for young people to express themselves, share their views, and engage in balanced discussion on issues that matter to them. By being entirely led and presented by 16-24 year olds, the station ensures that the voices of young people are at the forefront, reflecting the diversity of experiences and interests in Brighton & Hove.

Through live broadcasts, interviews as well as special music programming delivered for events such as International Women's Day and Brighton Pride - volunteers are encouraged to explore social and cultural topics, articulating their perspectives in an inclusive environment. Platform B also hosts workshops and training sessions on radio and production skills, enabling participants to develop confidence and learn about engaging audiences effectively.

By combining mentoring, collaborative programming and a public-facing platform, the station creates an open and supportive space where young people can share their ideas and experiences. This approach helps ensure a wide range of voices are heard and encourages young people to get involved, build confidence and connect with their community.

- 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.**

Platform B has an open and accessible volunteer recruitment process, also running regular events and public pop-up radio broadcasts in the city. This in turn strengthens community cohesion, engagement with the project and allows any young person to meet the team and find out how to get involved. Each year, Platform B also engages, trains, and supports a dynamic team of over 100 volunteers, providing hands-on experience in broadcasting, production and creative media.

The project regularly delivers radio workshops, engaging local youth-focused organisations. These sessions help to develop communication skills, wellbeing and confidence, while encouraging further involvement in music, media and creative projects. Building on this approach, the project plans to expand the programme over the next two years, reaching an increasing number of young people across the city.

- 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.**

The service will be created by and for Brighton's 16-24 year old creative community, with participation at its core. Young people will be encouraged to take part in public events, pop-up broadcasts, and outreach activities, providing feedback in person, online, and via social media. This regular flow of insight and lived experience helps the service build a clearer understanding of young people's needs, challenges and interests. By involving volunteers in content creation, the project delivers authentic, community-led programming while strengthening connections between peers, mentors, local organisations and cultural networks.

- 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.**

Platform B first launched online in 2017, inspired by the youthful energy of the city's many universities and colleges. It began broadcasting on 105.5 FM and DAB across the city in October 2018. The radio station boasts a skilled and dedicated team with expertise, passion and a strong commitment to empowering young people. This is reflected in an expertise with youth-led broadcasting as well as a demonstrable dedication to nurturing creativity, fostering dialogue and promoting community involvement among underserved young people. Platform B has proven experience in youth outreach and training initiatives, being a well-established media platform with a substantial audience. It has a robust and enduring relationship with Brighton's vibrant arts and culture community.

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.**

Young people are at the centre of the service, with clear, practical opportunities to participate in its operation. An open volunteer programme invites anyone aged 16-24 to get involved, promoted through youth organisations, colleges, social media and citywide events. Once they join, young volunteers receive hands-on training in broadcasting to run live shows, produce content, support technical setup, manage social media and help deliver workshops and public broadcasts.

Young people also take on key organisational roles, including managing the programme schedule, coordinating presenters, supporting the smooth running of day-to-day broadcasts, and taking on broadcast engineering responsibilities such as studio setup and technical troubleshooting. These roles ensure that the station is genuinely youth-led.

Regular pop-up events, outside broadcasts and community workshops create additional touchpoints for involvement, ensuring young people across the city can participate - even if they are new or not yet regular volunteers.

Through practical training, the service ensures young people are not just included - they drive the station's output.

Accountability

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

Built by and for the creative community it serves, Platform B fosters an open dialogue with presenters, producers, artists and DJs. Young people can contact the service through simple, accessible, youth-friendly channels. The station maintains active communication through Instagram (our primary platform), as well as email, online forms and other social media accounts, all monitored by the team.

Volunteers influence the service through the content they create and run themselves. They manage their own shows, design the format, select music, plan segments, and present or produce live broadcasts. Through these opportunities, volunteers drive their own content, develop skills, and ensure that the station's programming genuinely reflects their creativity and interests.

Community members can also share ideas directly at public events and pop-up broadcasts, where they meet the team, offer feedback and help shape upcoming activity.

Please also refer back to sections 3.9, 3.10 and 3.12.

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.**

A clear process for formal complaints is in place, supported by a robust code of conduct for all staff and volunteers. The Platform B website hosts a Complaints Policy on its policy page, which includes an Anonymous Reporting Form to ensure that concerns can be raised safely and confidentially.

All of Platform B's broadcast output is logged both locally and in the cloud. In addition, all shows will be available for on-demand playback via 'listen again' services. The Station Manager will regularly review these logs to ensure compliance, address listener feedback, and respond to any queries or complaints.

Before participating in any on-air activity, all staff and volunteers must review and sign the following documents:

- Platform B / Code of Conduct (for employees, freelancers & volunteers)
- Platform B / Ofcom Presenter Guidelines & Code of Conduct

As part of the onboarding process, the Station Manager and volunteer producers will conduct inductions for all prospective volunteer presenters, DJs and producers. These sessions will cover studio equipment and any questions regarding broadcasting regulations and overall governance structure of the service.

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	Platform B is the on-air name of the programme service as in question 3.1 of this application
Service Description	<p>Platform B is a music-led radio station for young people in Brighton and Hove. Its programming is planned, developed, produced and presented by its target community. It has a focus on emerging alternative and experimental music genres made and performed across the city in homes and smaller venues. The station acts as a forum for debate.</p> <p>The studio is located within the licensed coverage area.</p> <p>The service provides a range of community benefits (social gain objectives mandated by statute) for the target community, both on-air and off-air, and in doing so, achieves the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion • 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 • the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of links within it. <p>Members of the target community contribute to the operation and management of the service.</p> <p>The service has mechanisms in place to ensure it is accountable to its target community.</p>
Transmission Schedule	24/7

Multiplex	Brighton DAB

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).

Non-executive directors of the company have managed broadcast services for community radio, commercial radio as well as Independent Production for BBC network radio over more than 30 years - from 1990 to date. Executive Directors within the project have a detailed understanding of the Ofcom Broadcasting Code and the relevant clauses contained within these and listed codes of conduct. The service will not carry spot advertising nor use Phone paid Services.

- 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.

Non-executive directors of Platform B CIC have current experience of practical compliance in the operation of an Ofcom licensed FM community radio service. Additionally, two directors at the company have had experience of operating commercial radio licences from 1998 to 2018 and as executive director of a production company amongst the first to provide independently produced programmes to BBC network radio from 1994 to 2010.

- 4.3 For each role within your compliance team please provide a 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 Officer - To monitor overall compliance of the service and responsible for contacting Ofcom to comply with any requests for information. They will oversee compliance standards and ensure all terms of the licence are met and that staff have received adequate training to meet these terms and internal editorial expectations.

Station Manager - Responsible for the day to day overseeing of compliance. All production teams, volunteers and technical personnel will adhere and be reminded to follow all relevant broadcasting codes and best practise - embedded into a signed service code of conduct.

- 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 well as being trained with studio equipment and relevant software, volunteer presenters are required to sign a declaration understanding the service's codes of conduct - which includes reading through a summary of Ofcom Broadcasting Codes.

Volunteer producers are always on hand during live broadcasts to provide support and monitor radio shows in real time. In case of any accidental broadcast of offensive language, presenters are instructed to immediately fade the offending material off air, issue a brief apology and move on to the next item to the best of their ability. They are then expected to report the issue to the Station Manager, who will notify the Compliance Officer. The Compliance Officer will then log the incident. The volunteer presenter will then be formally reminded of the station's code of conduct and the importance of following all broadcasting codes. If issues continue, we will ask someone to take a short break from their radio show so we can work together on a positive way forward.

- 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. All presenters, producers, volunteers and technical personnel of the service receive mandatory compliance training, and be required to sign a form agreeing they have read through and understand the Project's code of conduct and compliance with Ofcom codes and rules.

- 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-compliant content is dealt with swiftly during the broadcast.

All presenters will be informed in advance when they are scheduled to begin their programme on the service. Prospective presenters will first record a pilot show rather than going live. This pilot will be reviewed to ensure compliance with all relevant codes, and constructive feedback will be provided before the presenter goes on air.

All broadcast audio output will be monitored and recorded by local logging solutions. Regular off-air checks will be carried out by the Station Manager. As highlighted in section 4.4, if any offending content is broadcast, the presenters and production team will be instructed to immediately fade down offending content, issue a brief apology by the presenter responsible and swiftly move on to the next item. They are then expected to report the issue to the Station Manager, who will notify the Compliance Officer. The Compliance Officer will then log the incident. The volunteer presenter will then be formally reminded of the station's code of conduct and the importance of following all broadcasting codes. If issues continue, we will ask them to take a short break from their radio show so we can work together on a positive way forward.

- 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.

Please refer back to section 4.6(a). All pre-recorded created in-house will get the same training as live in studio presenters. All third party event organisations that are broadcast on the service will be required to be fully aware of relevant broadcasting codes. If not, an induction will follow prior to any broadcast taking place.

- 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.

Platform B will ensure ongoing compliance with its on-air character of service by regularly monitoring all broadcast content and documenting how the Key Commitments are being met. The Station Manager maintains a detailed log of all radio shows and demographics of volunteer radio presenters and producers. Day-to-day monitoring will be carried out by the Station Manager and Volunteer Producers, who listen back to shows and ensure programming aligns with the service's youth-led remit. They will flag any issues and support volunteers to make adjustments where needed.

The Station Manager will check in with the Non-executive Project Director every quarter to review how the station is doing, making sure it's sticking to the key commitments and that young people are actively shaping what goes on air. The Non-executive Project Director will also look over a sample of broadcasts, playlisting, training records and programme logs to see how well the station is meeting its commitments around content, volunteer participation, and community involvement. Any gaps or areas for improvement will be highlighted, and recommendations will be made to help keep the station on track.

A quarterly feedback report will be submitted to the Non-executive Board of Directors. An annual report about Platform B, issued by the Board, will be available on the station's website, published on the Policies page.

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.

Platform B will ensure ongoing compliance with its off-air social gain activities by maintaining a detailed log of all radio shows and demographics of volunteer radio presenters and producers. The Station Manager will also oversee day-to-day monitoring of all off-air social gain activities, with support from volunteer producers.

The Station Manager will check in with the Non-executive Project Director every quarter to review how well the station is performing on delivery and compliance of the off-air social gain activities. The Non-executive Project Director will review off-air activities, including workshops, volunteer engagement and events, to see how well the station is meeting its commitments around volunteer participation and community involvement. Any gaps or areas for improvement will be identified, and recommendations will be made to ensure the programme continues to provide meaningful opportunities and positive outcomes for young people.

Platform B has the experience and expertise to monitor and evaluate its impact and has done so successfully for grant funders and key stakeholders across its programmes. A quarterly feedback report will be submitted to the non-executive Board of Directors. An annual report about Platform B, issued by the Board, will be available on the station's website, published on the Policies page.

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

English

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 Ofcom's code and rules. **Please do not give names of individual members of staff.**

Please refer back to section 4.3.

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:

Natalie Spada - Non-executive Project Director - Platform B CIC

Date of application:

9 December 2025

I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the applicant in my capacity as):

Company Director

You also need to complete the [confidential section \(Part B\) of the application form](#).