

Note of the Forty-First Meeting of the Ofcom Community Radio Fund Panel

Held on Tuesday 13 February 2024 via Microsoft Teams

Chair's Introduction

1. The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting. The Chair welcomed Clare McNally-Luke, observing the meeting ahead of beginning her tenure as a Panel member in 2024-25.

Item 1: Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 July 2023

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 July 2023, previously circulated to the Panel, were **AGREED** as an accurate record.

Item 2: Matters Arising

3. There were no matters arising other than those being dealt with under items on the Agenda.

Item 3 and 4: Grant Reports and sector update

4. The Panel **HEARD** a verbal report on the community radio sector.
5. The Panel were **INFORMED** about the general day to day activities in the licensing team, including the progress of SSDAB licensing, particularly that a number of C-DSP services broadcasting on live multiplexes. The Panel **HEARD** that in the coming rounds, more C-DSPs would become eligible to apply for funding. The Panel also **HEARD** about sector body meetings and the licensing team's various stakeholder roadshows across the UK.

Item 5: Community Radio Fund applications

6. The Panel **NOTED** that 72 applications had been submitted, requesting grants totalling £1,398,349.
7. The Panel gave full and careful considerations to each application and awarded grants which amounted to a total of £257,832 to 14 applications. A total of 58 applications from those under consideration were not awarded grants.

Item 6: Summary of Decisions

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

Item 7: Any Other Business

9. The Panel and Ofcom placed on record their thanks to Olu Bankole for her years of service on the Panel.

Item 8: Date of Next Meeting

10. It was **AGREED** that the next meeting would be held in the summer of 2024 to award funding in the second round of 2024-25. It was further **AGREED** that a date for the meeting would be set by email nearer the time.
11. There being no further business the meeting closed.