

Radio 1

Part I: Key characteristics of the service

This service licence describes the most important characteristics of Radio 1, including how it contributes to the BBC's public purposes. Service Licences are the core of the BBC's governance system. They aim to provide certainty for audiences and stakeholders about what each BBC service should provide.

The Trust uses service licences as the basis for its performance assessment and as the basis for its consideration of any proposals for change to the UK public services from the BBC Executive. A service may not change in a way that breaches its service licence without Trust approval. The Trust presumes that any proposed change to a stated Key Characteristic of a licence will require it to undertake a Public Value Test. Should it decide not to carry out a Public Value Test before approving any such change, then it must publish its reasons in full.

1. Remit

The remit of Radio 1 is to entertain and engage a broad range of young listeners with a distinctive mix of contemporary music and speech. Its target audience is 15-29 year olds and it should also provide some programming for younger teenagers.

It should offer a range of new music, support emerging artists - especially those from the UK - and provide a platform for live music. News, documentaries and advice campaigns should cover areas of relevance to young adults.

2. Scope of this Licence

Radio 1 should be available every day for general reception in the UK on FM, DAB digital radio and digital television platforms and it may be simulcast on the internet.

It may also offer its broadcast content on fixed and mobile internet protocol networks or via other platforms¹. On the same platforms, it may allow users retrospectively or prospectively via pre-booking to stream or download multiple episodes of first-run series (known as 'series stacking')² until a date no later than seven days after the last episode in the relevant series. This includes series where there is a break in scheduling between sub-sections of the series. The aggregate volume of such "series stacked" content must represent no more than 15% of all content offered on-demand.

¹ In accordance with the Trust's Syndication Policy for BBC on-demand content.

² Programmes may be series stacked if the series has a distinct run with a beginning and an end and a clear 'narrative arc' or if it has exceptionally high impact.

The service may offer its programmes streamed or for download on-demand for a limited period after broadcast.³ It may also offer broadcast radio content for download for an unlimited period of time after broadcast, although this must not include unabridged readings of published works, full track commercial music or classical music (even if recorded by the BBC),⁴ and other interactive station and programme-related content via bbc.co.uk. The service may also offer online video on BBC Online and on other providers' platforms on-demand. Such content should consist of distinctive video propositions and these should predominantly be related to broadcast programmes. In addition, a limited number of special events may be streamed live, and a limited amount of content may be made available online only. The service may also offer some speech audio content online up to seven days in advance of broadcast.

3. Service budget

Radio 1 has a service budget of £34.7 million in 2016/17.

Any planned or actual change in annual expenditure on the service of more than 10% in real value requires approval from the BBC Trust and may entail variation of this Service Licence.

4. Overview of aims and objectives

Radio 1's programmes should exhibit some or all of the following characteristics: high quality, original, challenging, innovative and engaging, and it should nurture UK talent.

The service should deliver its remit by producing a wide range of programmes that expose listeners to new and sometimes challenging material they may not otherwise experience. It should reflect a diverse range of new and UK music.

Radio 1's daytime programmes should offer a mix of music, information and entertainment and use an extensive playlist to introduce unfamiliar and innovative songs alongside more established tracks. In the evening specialist presenters, covering a broad range of musical genres, should support artists at the forefront of new music, assisting their growth and development. A wide range of live events should be covered from around the UK and beyond and live music should be featured throughout the schedule, with sessions and concerts from both established acts and experimental new bands. Radio 1 should encourage its listeners to take part in music events and activities.

Specially made speech output including documentaries and social action campaigns should form an integral part of the schedule and accurate, impartial and independent news should be placed at the heart of daytime output.

³ Radio 1 currently offers a limited amount of mainly speech content on-demand for an unlimited time period after initial broadcast. Any expansion of the scope of this requires the approval of the BBC Trust.

⁴ Download of classical music in the form of incidental music, signature tunes or clips of up to two minutes duration within speech based programmes with a specifically musical theme is permitted

BBC Radio 1 should encourage the take-up of DAB and other digital technologies, in particular by promoting 1Xtra and making high quality content available on digital platforms.

The broadcast output should be complemented by an online presence with interactive features, including some use of visual enhancements, which enable and encourage the audience to engage with the output and share their views with both the station and other listeners. Radio 1 should experiment with new technologies as they become available to ensure its young audiences have the maximum opportunity to access programmes as and when they want.

Radio 1 should contribute to BBC Radio's commitment to commission some output from outside the M25 area and from independent producers.

Part II: Contribution to public value

5. Contribution to the promotion of the BBC's public purposes

5.1 Stimulating creativity and cultural excellence

Radio 1 should make a very important contribution to this purpose amongst its audience, primarily through its contribution to musical creativity in the UK. It should provide a significant platform for new music and emerging UK artists across a wide range of musical genres. It may simulcast some late-night content with Radio 1 Xtra.

It should seek to support and increase the appreciation of live music through its emphasis on live performance.

In addition to music, there should be coverage of other significant aspects of cultural life, for example film, comedy and entertainment.

Conditions

Radio 1 should:

- Broadcast at least 60 hours of specialist music⁵ each week
- Ensure that at least 40% of the music in daytime⁶ is from UK acts each year
- Ensure that at least 45% of the music in daytime is new⁷ each year, with continuous particular support for new and emerging UK artists alongside established acts
- Feature coverage of at least 10 festivals and significant live events⁸ in the UK and abroad each year
- Broadcast at least 160 new sessions⁹ each year
- Contribute to BBC Radio's commitment to commission at least 10% of eligible hours of output from independent producers

5.2 Sustaining citizenship and civil society

BBC Radio 1 should make an important contribution to this purpose amongst its audience, primarily through its news and current affairs, and through its social action output.

⁵ Specialist music is music which appeals to specific groups of listeners – focussing on a specific genre of music or on cutting edge music from a range of genres

⁶ Daytime is defined as 06.00–19.00hrs, Monday-Friday and 08.00–14.00hrs, Saturday-Sunday.

⁷ Either unreleased or less than one month since release date (physical release, not download release)

⁸ Excludes single-artist special performances from BBC studios

⁹ Excludes repeats

Its news and current affairs may be simulcast with Radio 1 Xtra and should deliver accurate and impartial coverage in a tone and language appropriate to the target audience. Complex issues should be explained and placed into context to help the audience develop a greater understanding of national and international events. Listeners should be encouraged to explore a broad range of subjects and to provide feedback, ideas and stories and offered regular opportunities to engage in debate.

Radio 1's news output should be supported by a continuous online service.

Conditions

Radio 1 should:

- Broadcast at least 1 hour of news during daytime each weekday, including two extended bulletins¹⁰
- Provide regular bulletins during daytime at weekends¹¹

5.3 Promoting education and learning

BBC Radio 1 should make a significant contribution to this purpose amongst its audience, primarily through its social action output, a regular advice programme, its documentaries and its vocational initiatives.

Radio 1's documentaries should provide in-depth examinations of a range of issues significant to its audiences.

The station should offer regular social action campaigns covering topics relevant to teenagers and young adults. These should usually feature in daytime output and aim to create real impact with their target audience. The broadcast output should be complemented by interactive coverage.

Music should be scheduled in a way that builds listeners' repertoires and knowledge, with new, sometimes challenging tracks alongside more familiar ones. Radio 1 should provide practical vocational advice to those wishing to pursue a career in the music industry via its broadcast and interactive output.

Conditions

Radio 1 should:

- Broadcast at least 40 new documentaries each year¹²
- Offer at least 2 major Social Action campaigns, supported across daytime output and online each year, together with a number of other initiatives

¹⁰ With flexibility for holiday periods and occasional special schedule changes

¹¹ With flexibility for holiday periods and occasional special schedule changes

¹² May include documentaries which have been first broadcast on 1Xtra

5.4 Reflecting the UK's nations, regions and communities

BBC Radio 1 should play a part in this purpose amongst its audience. An extensive live events schedule should aim to connect the station directly with its listeners and reflect the diverse range of music enjoyed around the UK.

Interactive forums should allow listeners to share experiences and discuss areas of common interest, including music.

Radio 1 should contribute to BBC Radio's commitment to ensure that at least one third of relevant expenditure¹³ is incurred outside the M25 area.

5.5 Bringing the UK to the world and the world to the UK

BBC Radio 1 should play its part in contributing to this purpose amongst its audience, primarily by bringing the world to the UK, by offering UK audiences the best global musical talent and coverage of significant international music events. It should also provide an important platform for British talent, helping it build the foundations for international exposure. Its news and current affairs output should regularly cover international issues and events.

5.6 Emerging communications

The BBC's sixth public purpose is defined in the Charter as "in promoting its other purposes, helping to deliver to the public the benefit of emerging communications technologies and services and, in addition, taking a leading role in the switchover to digital television".

Radio 1 should contribute to the promotion of this purpose in a variety of ways which are described in this Service Licence.

¹³ This includes expenditure on first-run originated programming, but does not include expenditure on news or sport output

6. Annexes to this Licence

6.1 Annex I – Performance assessment

The performance of Radio 1 will be assessed by the Trust using the framework described in Annex I. Radio 1's compliance with any Conditions, as described in section 5, will also be measured on an annual basis and reported in the Annual Report and Accounts.

The BBC Trust will expect Radio 1 to comply with the commitments described in sections 4 and 5 of the Service Licence. The BBC Trust will monitor compliance with these commitments retrospectively as part of its periodic service reviews and/or on an exceptional basis if there is evidence or allegation of non-compliance.

Annex I: Performance measurement framework

The BBC Trust has the function of assessing the performance of the Executive Board in delivering the BBC's services and activities and holding the Executive Board to account for its performance.¹⁴ It uses the framework described below as the basis for its assessment of Radio 1.

The framework uses a range of metrics based around the four drivers of public value:

- Quality
- Reach
- Impact
- Value for money.

The Trust can amend this framework without this constituting formal variation to this Service Licence.

¹⁴ Charter, article 24 (c)