

Call for evidence: Future of TV Distribution

Response on behalf of the Broadcast 2040+ campaign

We welcome the opportunity to respond to Ofcom's call for evidence on the 'Future of TV distribution'. Because of the cross-cutting nature of our response, we have chosen to submit our evidence in this format.

The Broadcast 2040+ campaign was launched in 2022 by a group of organisations with a shared concern that the lack of a government commitment to broadcast TV and radio beyond the early 2030s puts these vital services at risk. Since launching, the campaign's coalition has grown from six to 33 members, representing a broad range of voices, including those speaking up for older people, rural communities, children, people experiencing loneliness, those living with disabilities and the less well off, alongside those from industry. We have consistently urged the government to consider the importance of universal broadcast services to society as a whole and to these specific groups in particular.

Broadcast services deliver valuable and high-quality content and choice, including: trusted and objective news and current affairs; regular and reliable coverage of events in Parliament and the devolved legislatures; a range of entertainment; live sport; quality, British-made children's programming; educational content; local and national radio services; and coverage of national and international events which bring the whole country together.

This content is universally available at no additional charge beyond the cost of the licence fee, delivered via an aerial to in excess of 98% of the population using the national broadcast network, received in homes, businesses and vehicles across the land. This network is also a crucial national asset, providing communications resilience in times of emergency.

Viewers and listeners must be put at the centre of this discussion and any decision on the future of terrestrial broadcast platforms. This cannot simply be the media industry having a circular discussion with itself. Our position is clear – Government and regulators must provide certainty for broadcast services to 2040 and beyond. This is essential to support the future of this vital platform for all UK citizens.

I. UK audiences want certainty for free-to-air terrestrial broadcast TV

The UK's listeners and viewers must be at the heart of discussions about the future of broadcast TV and radio services. Their needs must be paramount and the interests of the most vulnerable centre stage. A transparent approach which centres the viewer and listener will empower individuals and groups to feel a genuine stake in the outcome of decisions. We have seen the danger of decisions being taken in a different way, which give rise to controversy and criticism when their full ramifications are made public, for example the changes to BBC local radio services.¹

Millions of people access TV and radio content through broadcast services. Ofcom's Media Nations 2023 Report² showed that broadcast TV has a strong weekly reach of 79%, with DTT at the core of that content consumption. DAB radio services are expanding. 88% of adults listen to the radio for an average of 20 hours each week, the majority choosing terrestrial DAB or AM/FM radio. Broadcast services play a critical role in delivering public service content; for example, 88% of the time audiences spend engaging with the BBC is through its broadcast services.³

Those who rely on broadcast services deserve concrete certainty about their future – not vague rhetoric aimed to reassure. The groups who rely most heavily on broadcast services are those in our society who often have the least. They include: older people; those living with disabilities;

¹ Ofcom: Statement: Modernising the BBC's Operating Licence, June 2022 ([link](#))

² Ofcom: Media Nations 2023, August 2023 ([link](#))

³ National Audit Office, *A Digital BBC*, December 2022, ([link](#)).

people in remote and rural areas; lower-income households; and people without access to high-quality broadband and streaming services, either because it is unavailable in their area or because they are unable to pay for it. Recent research from coalition member Silver Voices⁴ revealed that an inability to afford broadband bills (46%) and the cost of online subscriptions (53%) were the top barriers to individuals moving to online-only TV and radio services over the next 15 years.

II. A move from broadcast services should not be considered given the vital role broadcasting plays in safeguarding universality and delivering a wide choice of programming to UK audiences

Research shows how important DTT is to viewers and that they want these services to continue:

- **Research from Ipsos** found that 90% of adults in Great Britain believe these services should continue to be supported. Importantly, it highlighted the significant negative impact of the potential loss of broadcast TV and radio, particularly for those who are vulnerable. A quarter of people (25%) said that they would be “very lonely” if they lost their Freeview services, rising to more than 2 in 5 (44%) of those who are 65 and older and living alone.
- **Polling by Strand Partners** found that 8 in 10 people value broadcast TV and radio as affordable entertainment options for their families, with 72% saying the loss of digital terrestrial television (DTT) would have a significant negative impact on the UK. Furthermore, it found that half of people are either unable to afford TV subscriptions or do not regard them as value for money. More than half (53%) are not interested in switching from broadcast TV to streaming apps.
- **A report published by the over-60s advocacy group Silver Voices**, a founding member of the Broadcast 2040+ coalition, found that over 80% of respondents believe broadcast TV and radio should be protected well beyond 2034 – to at least 2051. Notably, it analysed the views of those over the age of 60, who were most concerned about the exclusionary impacts of a potential reduction of broadcast services. This includes being left behind due to a lack of access to broadband services (84%) and being less technically able than the rest of the population (70%).

An increasing number of members of parliament have echoed this sentiment over recent months.

- The House of Commons Scottish Affairs Select Committee’s report on *Public Broadcasting in Scotland*⁵ recommended that “the UK Government signal that it will maintain Freeview beyond 2034”.
- The Culture Secretary Rt Hon Lucy Frazer MP used her keynote speech at the Royal Television Society’s 2023 Conference to state that the government will not ‘pull the rug from under the devoted audiences of Freeview channels’.⁶
- During the Second Reading debate of the Media Bill, the Minister of State for Data and Digital Infrastructure, Rt Hon Sir John Whittingdale MP, said ‘The government will not consider switching off DTT, unless we had reached the point where the overwhelming majority were no longer using it to access TV’.⁷
- At the Media Bill Committee on 5 December Sir John further said the government ‘remained committed to the future of digital terrestrial television’ and that ‘it would be a

⁴ Safeguarding Universality: The Future of Broadcast TV and Radio services October, 2023 ([link](#))

⁵ House of Commons, Scottish Affairs Select Committee, ‘Public Broadcasting in Scotland, February 2023 ([link](#)).

⁶ Lucy Frazer speech to RTS ([link](#)).

⁷ Hansard, 21 November 2023, ([link](#)).

brave government that switches off DTT while there are still a significant number or even a small number of people who are relying upon it'.⁸

The campaign is encouraged that this issue is gaining traction with policymakers, but these statements all underline the current absence of a concrete commitment to broadcast services up to and beyond 2040, even while recognising the ongoing, critical importance of these services to UK audiences.

III. ***It is highly unlikely that broadband can deliver universality by 2040, heightening the importance of safeguarding DTT for the decades ahead***

DTT is currently available across over 16 million households and is expected to continue as a primary means of reliable access to live TV programmes for UK audiences, regardless of age, income, or location, for years to come. While many households have high-speed broadband and can also access TV and radio services via online platforms, it is not the case for all. Ofcom's Connected Nations 2022 report for example highlighted that 97% of premises have superfast broadband available to them, but only 73% of households have signed up for a connection. This points to a significant gap in take-up of high-speed broadband.

New research from EY⁹ based on a statistical analysis at the constituency level across the UK shows that there is likely to continue to be a significant gap in the take-up of high-speed broadband in 2035 and 2040. This research finds that in 2035, an estimated 19% of UK households won't have a high-speed broadband connection. In 2040, 18% – more than 5.5 million UK premises – could still be without high-speed broadband. Vulnerable groups are likely to be the most effected, with EY finding that the elderly, disabled, and low-income households are disproportionately represented across households without high-speed broadband.

The spread of households without high-speed broadband would also not be evenly distributed across the UK. In constituencies with the lowest levels of take-up, the proportion of households without high-speed broadband could rise up to 38%. These constituencies are concentrated in less densely populated areas, where consumers have median wages up to 30% lower than the national average. Geographically, Northern Ireland, Wales, Yorkshire and the Humber, and the North East of England would be expected to have the lowest levels of take-up of high-speed broadband in 2035.

For a combination of reasons including cost, geographical location and personal choice, millions of people do not have a broadband connection that is capable of reliably streaming TV at peak times. This will continue to be the case up to and beyond 2040. EY's research findings align with other research into the existing barriers to individuals' access to broadband:

Cost of broadband. Ofcom has reported that over 1.4 million households struggle to afford fixed broadband.¹⁰ Those disproportionately affected by this are in Northern Ireland (8%) and Scotland (6%), on the lowest incomes of up to £10,399 per year (14%), those with an impacting / limiting condition (9%), and minority ethnic groups.¹¹

In May 2023, Citizens Advice reported that affordability challenges had driven as many as one million people to cut off their broadband.¹² Further, Ofcom has previously found that 5% of households rely solely on mobile data to connect to the internet.¹³ Recent research from Silver Voices, '*Safeguarding Universality: The Future of Broadcast TV and Radio*'¹⁴, cited individuals' inability to afford broadband bills (46%) and the cost of online subscriptions (53%) as the top barriers to moving to online-only TV and radio services over the next 15 years.

⁸ Hansard, Media Bill Committee, First Sitting, 5 December 2023, ([link](#)).

⁹ Refer to Arqiva's response to Ofcom Future of TV Call for Evidence

¹⁰ Ofcom: Digital divide narrowed by pandemic, but around 1.5m homes remain offline, ([link](#)).

¹¹ Ofcom: Communications Affordability Tracker, September 2023, ([link](#)).

¹² Citizens Advice, 18 May 2023, *One million lose broadband access as cost-of-living crisis bites*, [link](#).

¹³ Ofcom: Digital exclusion: a review of Ofcom's research on digital exclusion among adults in the UK, [link](#).

¹⁴ Safeguarding Universality: The Future of Broadcast TV and Radio services October, 2023, [link](#).

Digital skills. Limits to an individual's digital skills are also a key driver of reliance on broadcast TV and radio services. According to Ofcom, approximately 29% of internet users are categorised as 'narrow users,' and 2.4 million adults are incapable of completing a single basic task to get online, such as connecting to Wi-Fi or updating a password¹⁵. Similarly, around 10.2 million adults cannot perform all eight tasks at the 'Foundation Level' outlined in the Essential Digital Skills Framework, as measured by Lloyds Banking Group on behalf of the Department for Education¹⁶. These tasks include turning on devices, entering account information, using available device controls, and opening an internet browser.

It can reasonably be inferred that many of these people will rely disproportionately on the simple tried and tested technology of DTT to access TV services. Until and unless this skills gap is bridged, it is crucial to protect (DTT) and radio services for a significant proportion of the population. Millions of our fellow citizens would be at risk of being cut off without such protection.

Consumer choice. Ofcom must also factor in individual choices not to use broadband services. Previous Ofcom research has shown that about 5% of households rely solely on mobile internet access to connect to the internet and that the proportion who go online using only a smartphone has grown in recent years. Smartphone-only users are more likely to use the internet for only a small number of tasks and be unable to afford another device. Younger people, aged between 16-24 years old (24%) and 25-34 years old (32%) represent the majority of people using only a smartphone to go online, with 31% of these internet users categorised as the most financially vulnerable¹⁷. Unless measures are introduced to safeguard the future of DTT and broadcast radio services, those most at risk of being excluded from society are lower-income households, disabled and older people.

IV. DTT ensures resilient TV delivery

As well as risking social exclusion, failing to put concrete safeguards in place for DTT and broadcast radio services risks jeopardizing the UK's ability to provide reliable and resilient broadcast services, including in times of emergency. By solely relying on broadband as the means to transmit TV and radio, the government and regulator risks leaving large swathes of the population without any access to TV and radio services in the event of a broadband outage.

There is also a powerful national security argument for maintaining alternative and resilient means of communications distribution to ensure the UK can respond effectively in times of emergency. As we have seen in the last two years in Europe and the Middle East, the UK faces emerging threats in a turbulent world. The Deputy Prime Minister and cabinet minister responsible for national resilience, Rt Hon Oliver Dowden MP recently emphasised this point during a visit to the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory at Porton Down, Wiltshire, saying:

It always used to be the case that everyone would be able to access a battery-operated radio...How many people have a communication device that isn't reliant on digital and electric? We shouldn't assume that the resilience we had as individuals when we were growing up is the same now because society has digitised...The Government needs to ensure we are resilient in this digital age – including considering those analogue capabilities that it makes sense to retain. If you had a power outage and you wanted to get news, where would you get that news from? In the olden days, you'd switch on the radio and you'd hear what was going on.¹⁸

As Sir Peter Bazalgette, Chair of ITV 2016-2022, has noted,

We've learned a lot about the shape of future conflicts over the past year. We've already seen an undersea gas pipeline blown up. International infrastructure has become a credible target. What if the internet were compromised by the destruction of the satellites

¹⁵ Ofcom, *Adults' Media Use and Attitudes report 2023*, ([link](#)).

¹⁶ Lloyds Bank, *Essential Digital Skills 2023*, ([link](#)).

¹⁷ Ofcom: A review of Ofcom's research on digital exclusion among adults in the UK, March 2022, ([link](#))

¹⁸ Oliver Dowden MP, quoted in the *Daily Mail*, ([link](#)).

and the cables it depends upon? In a time of crisis, how would a government get its crucial messages out (think Covid and lockdown)? There's a powerful argument for maintaining alternative means of distribution. Chiefly, DTT for TV and FM for radio. It's a matter of national resilience and it would be a foolish government or regulator which ignored this. The director-general of the BBC, Tim Davie, is rightly preparing the corporation for the internet age. But he should also be arguing for the maintenance of DTT. Neatly this combines technological resilience with the enduring value of the BBC's trusted news services.¹⁹

Arguments of national resilience and civil contingency must be weighed as part of any review of the future of terrestrial broadcast services.

V. The environmental impact of streaming

Delivering TV through broadband is far more energy intensive than DTT and as a result has a greater GHG emission impact. We urge Ofcom to factor into its decision making the fact that DTT is a relatively low-emission form of entertainment. Research from Carnstone on the environmental impact of DTT showed that, excluding the energy consumption of viewing devices, one hour of viewing TV via terrestrial networks uses 9.1 Wh of energy, compared to 54 Wh per hour for streaming. When you consider the energy used by viewing devices, these numbers are 76 Wh and 113 Wh, respectively. This is because DTT has a simple delivery system, coming into your home through your television aerial, rather than using more energy-intensive customer and peripheral equipment. The results confirm those of previous studies, showing that consuming TV via DTT is far more energy efficient.²⁰

A hybrid world where citizens watch content through DTT and the internet is likely to be more energy efficient, while delivery of all content through the internet could be expected to have a much larger impact on carbon emissions.

VI. Broadcast radio is also essential to the UK and shares DTT infrastructure

Any recommendations about the future of DTT must also reckon with the fact that broadcast television and radio share the same distribution network and the economic models that ensure their joint delivery are intertwined. Radio is a vitally important public service, relied upon by 88% of adults who listen weekly, mostly via DAB or AM/FM radio²¹.

The importance of terrestrial radio services was emphasised by the Silver Voices' report *Safeguarding Universality: The Future of Broadcast TV and Radio*, which found that 64% of respondents listen to broadcast radio every week.²² Focus groups conducted as part of the report's research stage also found that DAB radio is crucial in the car, and is likely to remain so. Most would not consider retro-fitting an internet radio into their vehicles for cost reasons, nor would they buy a new car. For those whose livelihoods rely on the car or travelling frequently, such as lorry drivers, radio can be especially important – not only to keep informed, but also for companionship in what can sometimes be a solitary occupation²³. Large parts of rural Great Britain and Northern Ireland, crossed by motorways and trunk roads, have poor broadband and radio coverage, in contrast to extensive broadcast signal.

We urge Ofcom to take this into consideration when determining the future of the network that supports broadcast radio and ensure the voices of those reliant on DAB and AM/FM radio are fully accounted for in any decisions made regarding the future of these services.

VII. The government/Ofcom must provide long-term certainty for DTT

We understand the benefits of technological advances and the new opportunities and possibilities these open up for viewers and listeners. For many, especially the better off and

¹⁹ Sir Peter Bazalgette, letter to the Financial Times, 6 January 2023, ([link](#)).

²⁰ Carnstone, *Carbon emissions of streaming and digital terrestrial television*, ([link](#)).

²¹ RAJAR: RAJAR data release, quarter 2, 2022 – All Radio Listening, ([link](#)).

²² Safeguarding Universality: The Future of Broadcast TV and Radio services October, 2023, ([link](#)).

²³ Safeguarding Universality: The Future of Broadcast TV and Radio services October, 2023, ([link](#)).

more tech-savvy, greater choice means greater freedom to consume content in different ways. However, when determining the future of these services, crucially, we believe that the interests of those viewers who do not have the freedom to exercise that choice must be at the heart of any decision on the future of the platform. As this submission lays out, for millions of people today, tomorrow and for decades to come, DTT will continue to be the essential means through which they access TV and radio content. We believe the foreseeable future must be a hybrid one, with DTT and broadcast radio continuing to play a crucial role.

The Culture Secretary's comments at the Royal Television Society that the government will not 'pull the rug from under the devoted audiences of Freeview channels' was a positive signal, but in the absence of more concrete commitments an air of uncertainty continues to hang over the future of broadcast services. This uncertainty hinders investments in the platform which could deliver service improvements for viewers and listeners and improve the efficiency of the network.

We urge Ofcom to use this review to set a clear course for a more certain and secure future for broadcast services in the United Kingdom. We restate our ambition that Government will make a clear and concrete commitment to the long-term future of broadcast services up to and beyond 2040.

For more information, visit: <https://www.broadcast2040plus.org/>

Full details on the partners:

Silver Voices: Silver Voices is the UK-wide campaign organisation for the over 60s. With over 5000 paid-up members, and thousands of others supporting their social media channels, they campaign on all issues which have a major impact on the older generations, including pensions, health and social care and retirement housing.

Age UK: Age UK's vision is a world where everyone can love later life. They know it won't be easy getting there, but they believe it's how things should be. With your help, they work every day to make it happen.

Children's Media Foundation: The Children's Media Foundation is dedicated to ensuring UK children have access to the best possible media, on all platforms, at all ages. The CMF is governed by a Board of concerned individuals. Its activities in various fields are undertaken by the CMF Executive who are all volunteers.

Rural Services Network: RSN is the national champion for rural services, ensuring that people in rural areas have a strong voice. They are fighting for a fair deal for rural communities to maintain their social and economic viability for the benefit of the nation as a whole.

Arqiva: In today's switched-on world, companies – entire industries – are grappling with how to share data and content across a myriad of connected devices. That's where Arqiva comes in. Fundamentally, they're enablers. Behind the scenes, they apply their knowledge and expertise to stitch together technologies that connect broadcasters and utilities to their customers, and the content, data, information, and entertainment they want.

British Broadcast Challenge: The British Broadcasting Challenge has two simple goals: To promote a wide-ranging discussion about the future of UK Public Service Broadcasting – its potential for good, its ability to transmit truth, its institutional place at the heart of the UK, and how it can be improved for the digital age. Secondly, to have this debate in public.

The Voice of the Listener & Viewer: The Voice of the Listener & Viewer (VLV) is an independent, non-profit making membership-based charity, free from political and sectarian affiliations. VLV works to promote high quality broadcasting which maintains the democratic and cultural traditions of the UK.

Digital Poverty Alliance: Their vision: To live in a world which enables everyone to access the life changing benefits that digital brings. Their mission: To end digital poverty once and for all by 2030. What they do: They convene, compel, and inspire collaboration for the UK & global community to lead sustainable action against digital poverty.

The Campaign to End Loneliness: The Campaign to End Loneliness believe that people of all ages need connections that matter. They have been experts in the field of loneliness and connection since 2011. Their vision is that everyone can live a life free from chronic loneliness.

Citizens Advice Cornwall: Citizens Advice Cornwall is an independent charity and member of the national Citizens Advice Service. The organisation exists to offer free, independent, and confidential advice to everyone to help solve their problems and improve their lives – from consumer issues to problems at work and from benefit applications to debt relief and homelessness – they're here to help everyone regardless of race, class, religion, politics or sexual identity.

Churches 4 Positive Change: Churches 4 Positive Change are made up of Pastors from various church denominations and community leaders in Wolverhampton. They formed as a result of the work that 'Men 4 Positive Change' delivered in the city over the past five years. They formed to respond to the rise in gang and serious youth violence in the city and aim to empower people to facilitate change.

County Durham Community Foundation: County Durham Community Foundation is a charity and company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of a wide range of professionals who either live, work, or have an interest in County Durham. The work of County Durham Community Foundation is also supported by their President, patrons, and ambassadors.

Age UK: North Tyneside: The Age UK North Tyneside Group was established in 1972 and has grown to become the largest local voluntary organisation in the borough. They have over 250 staff and over 135 volunteers providing a wide range of services for older adults in North Tyneside.

Cumbria Community Foundation: The Cumbria Community Foundation are an independent local charity run by a board of trustees who are elected annually by their members. With the support of their founders they have made grants totalling more than £50m since inception in 1999. They provide a means by which people and organisations can make a difference to the most disadvantaged people in their community. Cumbria Community Foundation is part of a national and international network of community foundations. Together they seek to support people and organisations wishing to invest in the local community.

Focus4Hope Brighouse: Focus4Hope is a registered charity, based in Brighouse that seeks to provide support for the homeless, elderly, isolated, and vulnerable in West Yorkshire. They were founded in 2016 as a community-based group of friends, who wanted to develop ways of collectively making a difference in the region. From these humble beginnings, the organisation has gone on to become a pillar in the local charitable community. They have had the great pleasure of helping thousands of vulnerable people in our area, as well as refugees in France.

WorldDAB: The global industry forum for DAB digital radio. WorldDAB delivers tailored solutions and advice on all aspects of the switch from analogue to digital radio including regulation, licensing, technical trials, network build out, marketing and production of new digital radio content.

Frontier Smart Technologies: Frontier is a pioneer in technologies for connected audio and the market leader in DAB/DAB+ radios and SmartRadio solutions. Powering over 50 million devices worldwide. Frontier provides a range of chips and modules, from turnkey entry-level solutions to sophisticated, highly configurable options, to leading consumer electronics brands.

Fix Radio: Fix Radio - The Builders Station, is the UK's national DAB station made especially for tradespeople. Featuring trade influencers and presenters like The Bald Builders Breakfast with Brad and Sam (Britain's most followed builders on social media), and dedicated programming for individual trades such as carpentry, heating and plumbing and plastering, the station covers all aspects of life on site.

Communicorp UK: At CCUK they pride themselves on creating high-quality, bespoke, campaigns across the marketing mix. From radio advertising on some of the UK's most exciting brands to creative print and copywriting

Boom Radio: Boom Radio is a digital radio start-up, using DAB and online technology to broadcast to the UKs 14 million baby boomers.

LTVN: The Local TV Network represents the interests of the 34 Ofcom-licensed local television services in the UK. Launched in 2013, Local TV covers localities from Belfast to Medway, Aberdeen to Bristol, delivering locally focused news bulletins on Freeview. They engage with local government, public bodies and media on numerous issues related to policies, relevant access and commercial agreements, on behalf of their services.

PBS America: PBS America is the UK home of television America's Public Broadcasting Service, available 24 hours a day on Freeview 84, Freesat 155, Virgin 273 and Sky 174.

Talking Pictures TV: Talking Pictures TV (TPTV) is the UK's largest independent television channel and is unique in targeting lovers of classic film and television.

Together TV: Together TV is the social change broadcaster brought to you by the experience of Community Channel, the supporter-owned TV channel established in 2000. Together TV inspires and connects people, breathing new life into what a TV channel can be.

United Christian Broadcasters: United Christian Broadcasters is all about making sure that every person, in every place, every moment of the day has the opportunity to hear, watch, or read the Word of God in a relevant and engaging way. We do this through 2 national DAB Christian radio stations (UCB 1 and UCB 2), a Bible devotional sent to your home each quarter (the UCB Word For Today), and a Prayerline team who are available to pray with you and for you (whatever your situation).

Age of Concern North Norfolk: The registered charity's aim is to maintain its clients' independence and help them to continue to live at home and participate in community life for as long as possible. Through attending the day service hub, clients can have regular social contact, reducing social isolation and helping maintain mental abilities.

Age UK North Yorkshire and Darlington: In operation since 1989, Age UK North Yorkshire & Darlington has been offering a wide range of services, all tailored for the over 50's. The organisation's mission is – "to enhance the health and well-being of older people by promoting quality-assured activity, information and care; ensuring that older people have opportunity for choice and continued independence".

National Federation of the Blind UK: National Federation of the Blind of the UK is a registered charity founded by blind and partially sighted people in 1947 and is an independent, non political, self-help campaigning group, which is still run by blind and partially sighted people. With representatives in numerous organisations and committees, working with Local Authority and Government departments, it strives to improve the overall welfare and quality of daily life for all blind, partially sighted, deaf-blind people and those whose sight impairment is part of multi disability.

The British Entertainment Industry Radio Group: The British Entertainment Industry Radio Group (BEIRG) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that works for the benefit of all those who produce, distribute and ultimately consume content made using radio spectrum in the UK. Venues and productions that depend on radio spectrum include TV, film, sport, theatre, churches, schools, live music, newsgathering, political and corporate events, and many others.

Sunrise Radio: Sunrise Radio in its 34th year of broadcasting, was the UK's 1st 24-hour Asian radio station and has remained the number 1 commercial Asian radio station during this time. It's the UK's only national commercial Asian radio service and is synonymous with British Asians, setting Asian culture in a Western context. Its importance to British Asians is unprecedented, it also provides British-born Asians with a link to their heritage through its content.

Better Media: Better Media is a membership organisation campaigning for UK media reform by helping people to be the media, know the media and change the media. The successor to the trade union-founded Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom, Better Media maintains strong ties to the trade union movement.

Age UK Mid Mersey: Age UK Mid Mersey is a local independent charity which is partnered with Age UK. It supports people aged 50+ who live in Knowsley, St Helens, Warrington and Halton. It provides a holistic service, known as 'Living Well' which comprises of four themes: Health and Wellness, Social Inclusion, Personal Independence, Staying Connected.