

Key Commitments change request form

Community radio station name:	Beat 103
Licence number:	CR000158BA
Licensee (company name):	Preston community radio 23
Contact name:	Leroy Allen
Date of request:	21 10 2022

Details of requested change(s) to Key Commitments

A community radio operator may apply to Ofcom to have the station's Key Commitments amended.

Please complete the table overleaf by including your current Commitment in the left hand column and your proposed revised Commitment in the centre column. In the right hand column please give a brief explanation as to why you wish to make each change.

We also require you to complete a second table which asks you to explain your proposed changes with reference to the statutory framework.

If you do not provide an explanation for your proposed changes and a completed comparison table, Ofcom cannot consider a Key Commitments change.

Please complete this form and return it to: broadcast.licensing@ofcom.org.uk

Existing Commitment (as in your published Key Commitments) Please only include one commitment change per row, and add more rows as necessary into the table.	Proposed revised/new Key Commitment	Reason for proposed change
Preston community radio 23 to produce local content Thirteen hours per day	Preston community radio to produce Eight hours of locally produced content Monday Wednesday and Friday with a recap of local news on Saturday throughout the day	We have shows that are two hours in duration so we would like these hours reduced
Music from the 1960s upwards to today	We would like to change this commitment to play music from the 1980s to current music	The communities we aim to service has asked us to play more from the 1980s and less of the 1960s we will continue to play music from the 1960s in our schedule

Statutory requirements

Under section 106(1A)(a)-(f) of the Broadcasting Act 1990 (as amended and modified¹) Ofcom must be satisfied that your proposed changes **meet at least one of the criteria referred to below**.

Please indicate which of these criteria you believe your proposed changes satisfy by deleting YES or NO as applicable and provide an explanation for why you consider a particular criterion is met in the relevant box. You should note that even if Ofcom is of the opinion that your explanation of your proposed changes meets one or more of these criteria, there may still be reasons why Ofcom is unable to consent to the change. When explaining your proposed changes, it is not enough to state that you believe one of the criteria is met. You must also demonstrate *why* you consider that at least one of these criteria is met.

In particular, if Ofcom is not satisfied that the changes would not substantially alter the character of the service (criterion (a) below), Ofcom cannot consent to the change without consulting on your proposals.² If this is the case, we will contact you to confirm that you are happy for us to consult on your proposed changes, and whether you wish to make any changes to your request in light of the need to make it public.

As part of our consideration of your request to make changes to your Key Commitments, we require applicants to provide an explanation for **at least one** of the criteria below.

(a) In your judgement would the proposed changes substantially alter the character of the service?	YES/NO (Please explain why below)
At this time due to difference in how people listen to radio and when Preston FM applied for the licence times have changed remarkably but we will still offer the service we offer now for our communities apart from there will not be live presenters on air, but news and other community content will still be available	
(b) Do you consider that the proposed changes would narrow the range of programmes available by way of relevant independent radio services to persons comprising the relevant community?	YES/NO (Please explain why below)
Not at all apart from there maybe no presenter live on air at certain times of the day but all of the current specialist shows will be continued	
(c) Do you believe that there is evidence that, amongst persons comprising that community, there is a significant demand for, or significant support for, the changes that you have proposed?	YES/NO (Please explain why below)
We have spoken with many communities and individuals alike and they have advised that as long as they can get there community information on air they are happy for change and we guarantee this as Preston community radio 23 is an active community facility	
(d) Do you consider that your proposed changes would be prejudicial	YES/NO (Please explain why below)

¹ As amended by sections 312 and 313 of the Communications Act 2003 and modified by the Community Radio Order 2004.

² Ofcom may approve a change under any of criteria (b), (c), (d) and (e) without consultation, or after a consultation of less than 28 days, if Ofcom considers that to hold a consultation at all, or for 28 days or more, would result in a delay that would be likely to prejudice the interests of the licensee. Ofcom may also remove for the purposes of consultation any confidential information submitted by the licensee.

to the access by members of that community to the facilities used for the provision of the service and for training in the use of those facilities?	
The open house radio station facilities will not alter whatsoever the communities will still be able to use the facilities we have offered for over Seven years, and we will continue to offer the facilities up until the duration of our community licence	
(e) Do you consider that the proposed changes would be prejudicial to the delivery of social gain resulting from the provision of the service provided under your licence?	YES/NO (Please explain why below)
No the amended changes will not be prejudicial to the delivery of social gain resulting from the provision of the service provided under your licence	

Please set out below any additional information and/or evidence you wish to provide in support of your proposed changes.

In particular, you may wish to outline how you think your proposed change(s) fit(s) within Ofcom's [published guidance on changes to Key Commitments](https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/31913/kc-changes-guidance.pdf) (https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/31913/kc-changes-guidance.pdf).

We feel that the key commitments from 2008 need to be updated as we have spoken with various organisations community groups and individuals and they are all in agreement that things have to change because times have changed from when Preston FM had the community radio licence.

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](https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/foi-dp/general-privacy-statement) (<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/foi-dp/general-privacy-statement>) for further information about how Ofcom handles your personal information and your corresponding rights.

Amended May 2018

Ofcom notes on the request

The request was AGREED, because Ofcom was satisfied in relation to Section 106(1A)(a) of the Broadcasting Act 1990 (as modified by the Community Radio Order 2004, and further modified by the Community Radio (Amendment) Orders 2010 and 2015) i.e. that the changes would not substantially alter the character of the service, and for the policy reasons given below.

The licensee has asked to reduce its requirement for the provision of locally-produced output from a daily commitment of 13 hours a day to a weekly commitment of 56 hours. This change is roughly a 38% reduction in total locally-produced output across the week. The licensee says this reduction will provide it with greater control over the presenter-led shows, where some presenters have limited availability throughout the week. Although locally-produced output does not necessarily have to consist only of presenter-led programmes, we are nevertheless satisfied that this change will not substantially alter the character of programme service as the required volumes of original and locally-produced output should enable the station to continue to deliver a service consistent with Beat Radio's overall character of service.

The licensee also proposes to change its current requirement to broadcast music from the 1960s onwards, to a new requirement to broadcast music from the 1980s onwards. Ofcom recognises that this change will not substantially alter the character of service because Preston Community Radio 23 will continue to broadcast 'some specialist music programmes', which will play music from the 1960s. Ofcom is satisfied that the licensee will be able to meet its Key Commitments regardless of this adjustment in music requirement.

In terms of our policy criteria, Ofcom is satisfied that the change will not affect the station's ability to meet the community radio 'characteristics of service' set out in the legislation and, for the reasons set out above we judge the extent of the impact of the change on the character of service to be low. We therefore decided to exercise our discretion to approve this change

January 2023