NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO INVoke THE FAST-TRACK APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE AWARD OF A SOUND BROADCASTING CONTRACT

In accordance with section 67(3) of the Broadcasting Act 2009 (“the Act”), the Contract Awards Committee of the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (“the BAI”) hereby announces its intention to invoke the fast-track procedure for the award of a sound broadcasting contract (“Contract”) on the FM band for the provision of the following service:

Quasi-national Speech/News Service

Programming on the service will be primarily speech and news, of relevance to listeners throughout the state and particularly, a 25+ target audience.

*The Contract, currently held by News 106 Limited and broadcasting as Newstalk 106-108 FM, is due to expire on 24th September 2016.*

Any person, other than the incumbent, interested in providing the Quasi-national speech/news sound broadcasting service is required to submit in writing that he/she wishes to apply for the award of the Contract, and to deposit the sum of €25,000 with the BAI by Tuesday, 19th January 2016. Such deposit is refundable, if an application for the award of the Contract is subsequently submitted to the BAI, in accordance with section 65 of the Act.

The written submission must be completed in accordance with the format set out in the “Guide to Submissions: Statement of Intent” document in respect of the Quasi-national speech/news service, which is available on the BAI’s website, or, on request from the BAI’s offices (email: licensing@bai.ie or call 01 644 1200).

Please note that a submission of a Statement of Intent in response to this notice will not be regarded as an application for the Contract. An invitation to apply for the award of the Contract in accordance with section 65(8) of the Act will be issued separately, should the BAI consider it appropriate to do so. Such an invitation, if issued, will be for a Contract for a Quasi-national speech/news sound broadcasting service for a period of ten (10) years, to commence from the 25th September 2016.

A submission of a Statement of Intent for the award of the Contract for the Quasi-national speech/news service should be sent to:

**Jill Caulfield, Contract Awards, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland,**
2-5 Warrington Place, Dublin D02 XP29. T: 01 6441200

Cuireann an tÚdarás failte roimh comhfhreagrais i nGaeilge