



Minutes of Meeting of the Authority of Broadcasting Authority of Ireland

Date 2/05/2019 **Time:** 10.00am **Venue:** The Glasshouse Hotel, Sligo

Attendance

Authority: Pauric Travers (Chairperson), Alan McDonnell, Denis Wolinski, Grace Smith, Maeve McDonagh, Mary Curtis, Rosemary Day, Seán Ó Mórdha, Vivien McKechnie.

Executive: Michael O'Keeffe, Celene Craig, Andrew Robinson (Secretary)

1. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Promoting Plurality & Diversity

2.1 Application for Content Provision Contracts – Ratification of Decision of the Contract Awards Committee: Virgin Media Television Limited

In their capacity as members of the Contract Awards Committee, Authority members Grace Smith and Mary Curtis, and Executive staff member Celene Craig, declared an interest in this item and recused themselves from discussion and decision on the matter. Chief Executive Michael O'Keeffe also declared an interest in this item and recused himself from discussions.

Members considered an Executive Note assessing an application for a content provision contract, further to Section 71 of the Broadcasting Act 2009, from Virgin Media Television Limited for a service entitled "Virgin 100". Members noted that "Virgin 100" is available to Virgin Media customers and comprises a repeating loop of promos for programmes from their current channels, Virgin Media One, Two, Three and Sport, as well as promos from the content partners to promote the range of content available on the Virgin Media platform.

In accordance with Section 71(4) of the Broadcasting Act 2009, the Authority was satisfied to ratify the recommendation of the Contract Awards Committee, to award in principle a content provision contract to the application Virgin Media Television Limited.

2.2 Recommendations of the Contract Awards Committee: Temporary Sound Broadcasting Services

In their capacity as members of the Contract Awards Committee, Authority members Grace Smith and Mary Curtis, and Executive staff member Celene Craig, declared an interest in this item and recused themselves from discussion and decision on the matter.

Further to the provisions of Section 68(1) of the Broadcasting Act 2009, the Authority was satisfied to ratify the recommendations of the Contract Awards Committee in respect of the following temporary sound broadcasting services:

- Eden FM (Heartbeat FM Radio Services Limited t/a Eden FM), and
- BCFE FM (City of Dublin Education and Training Board on behalf of Ballyfermot College of Further Education).



3. Achieving Excellence & Accountability

3.1 FAR Committee annual performance assessment report to the Board

Members were presented with the FAR Committee's report on the outcomes of its annual performance assessment. Members noted that this was the first year that the Executive participated in the review which was undertaken in line with the FAR Committee's obligations under the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

Following discussion, the Authority wished to acknowledge the work of the FAR Committee, noting that it was working effectively. The Authority then considered the findings of the performance assessment process, noting that while most areas had reached a best practice, good or acceptable standard, there were certain areas which were not deemed acceptable by respondents.

The Authority noted that these matters would be brought before the FAR Committee for consideration at its June meeting with the outcomes of those discussions to be formally presented to the Authority in due course.

4. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Authority will be held at **11am** on **Thursday 23rd May** in the BAI offices.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Pauric Travers', is written over a horizontal line.

**Professor Pauric Travers,
Chairperson**

28th June 2019