

**NOTES FOR ALLOCATION PANEL – 26 FEBRUARY 2016**

- Non-commercial community licences – no resource charge – allocated in a beauty contest rather than auctioned in exchange for broadcasting services that fulfil Govt policy.
- Policy contained in the Regional and Community Broadcasting Framework (RCBF) - alongside framework are specific requirements for non-commercial community licences - ultimately reflected in licence agreements (the relevant documents are attached).
- In most past allocations of community licences, the priorities have tended to be determined as follows:
  - New Access radio-type services or existing community services seeking to extend coverage compromised for technical reasons
  - Existing non-commercial community services prepared to exchange AM for FM
  - New services for communities of interest whose needs are otherwise not adequately met by existing services in the locality.
- However, the last time a licence was allocated the panel established its own criteria which were based on the objectives in the RCBF. These criteria asked, would the application, if approved:
  - Promote local broadcasting services which support, among other things, local and regional character and identity and democratic and civic participation among regional and local populations (**local broadcasting**)?
  - Promote innovation and a diverse range of content and formats that reflect audience identities and cater for their interests (**diversity**)?
  - Facilitate wide technical, cultural and social access to broadcasting (**accessibility**)?
  - Provide for long-term developments affecting broadcasting (**future-proofing**)?
- The applicant's technical and financial ability to deliver the service was also taken into consideration.
- The 106.1 FM frequency is part of the Crown reserve and has been engineered for a particular power output and location. It has been reserved at Mt Kaukau but Hutt Community Radio was given permission to broadcast, initially from Naenae but more recently from Maungaraki Hill.

- A request to move the transmitter or reduce power for cost reasons may compromise objectives by reducing potential audience size.
- The panel's job is to allocate to best applicant for the frequency but may decide not to allocate if not satisfied that any applicant fits the bill.
- If the panel needs additional info to be able to make a decision you may request it from the applicants and interview parties if you wish.
- The panel may suggest to successful applicants that they extend invitations to unsuccessful applicants to join with them as a combined effort.
- There is no right of appeal but an applicant may seek a judicial review if the process is not adhered to or is considered unfair in some way.

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