

Key Commitments**Licence number: CR000143BA**

Service name	Spark FM
Licence area	Sunderland (as shown in the licensed coverage area map)
Frequency	107.0 MHz

Description of character of service

Spark FM is for young people aged 15-30 in Sunderland, including Sunderland University students. It broadcasts a mixture of relevant music and speech programming and provides students and young people with opportunities to participate in radio broadcasting and production.

The service broadcasts:

- Music. The main types of music broadcast over the course of the week are: indie/alternative, chart music, dance, R&B and urban. Local music is also featured.
- Speech. The main types of speech output broadcast over the course of each week are: interviews, discussions, and news reporting.
- The service provides original output¹ for a minimum of 42 hours per week during University term time, and 35 hours per week at all other times.
- The service provides locally-produced output² for a minimum of 13 hours per day.

The studio is located within the licensed coverage area.

The service provides a range of community benefits (social gain objectives mandated by statute) for the target community, both on-air and off-air, and in doing so, achieves the following objectives:

- the facilitation of discussion and the expression of opinion,
- the provision (whether by means of programmes included in the service or otherwise) of education or training to individuals not employed by the person providing the service, and
- the better understanding of the particular community and the strengthening of links within it.

Members of the target community contribute to the operation and management of the service.

The service has mechanisms in place to ensure it is accountable to its target community.

[October 2009. Revised July 2013; October 2016; July 2020)

¹ Original output is output that is first produced for and transmitted by the service, and excludes output that was transmitted elsewhere before. Original output can be live or voice-tracked. Repeat broadcasts of original output do not count towards the minimum requirement.

² Locally-produced output is any output made and broadcast from within the service's licensed coverage area. It may include all types of local production.