



Programming Policy

Purpose

To serve the community interest of the Inner North East region of Melbourne by providing accurate, timely and entertaining broadcasting and promoting of local news, events, issues and music; and opportunity and access for local community groups, individuals artists and youth in particular.

Programme Philosophy

Central to the Programming Philosophy is the need for 96.5 Inner FM to meet the needs and desires of the citizens of our Broadcast area within the resources available at any given period. Providing a balanced program that reflects those requirements as well as giving fair and reasonable access and opportunity to community groups will provide 96.5 Inner FM with material and human resources.

Given that the current population of the broadcast area is estimated at over 250,000 people (2016), the Committee of Management (CoM) will adopt a decision making process that will include the following considerations when deciding on which programs will go to air, remain on-air or be taken off air;

- Similar existing programs on metropolitan stations
- Public demand
- Equity related issues
- Compatibility with existing station policy/direction
- Resources - financial and human
- Availability of time

On-Air Criteria

The Programming team will regularly (at least quarterly) review our overall programme schedule. The content that we put to air will, from time to time, require amending as we reflect our ever-changing listener demographic.

In addition, one of our organisation's key objectives is to provide a means for aspiring broadcasters from the local community to gain industry experience. We therefore actively encourage members to become announcers and every effort will be made to accommodate these new volunteers into our programme schedule.



Programme Standards

Prohibited Matter

As licensee, 96.5 Inner FM will not permit the broadcasting of programs which may;

- Incite, encourage or present for their own sake violence or brutality;
- Simulate news or events in such a way as to mislead or alarm listeners;
- Present as desirable the misuse of alcohol
- Promote or advertise the use of tobacco;
- Present as desirable the misuse of drugs or narcotics.
- Incite or perpetuate hatred against; or gratuitously vilify; any person or group on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, gender, sexual preference, religion, political beliefs or mental disability. 96.5 Inner FM recognizes the need for equity and social justice in program content and opportunity.
- Be harmful to children in any way.

Australian Music Performances

96.5 Inner FM will ensure that in relation to Australian music content:

- (a) Not less than 25% of the total time occupied in the broadcasting of music shall consist of music performed by Australians.
- (b) For the purposes of paragraph (a) where more than one performer is involved in a musical performance, that performance shall be predominantly by Australians.
- (c) Paragraph (a) shall not apply if an occasional special program is dedicated to an overseas performer or performance or an overseas music style or theme.
- (d) Paragraph (a) shall not apply if the broadcast period is less than one hour.

News Programs

News programs (including news flashes) transmitted by 96.5 Inner FM **must**;



- Present news accurately.
- Not present news in such a way as to create public panic, or unnecessary distress to listeners.
- Distinguish news from comment.

Contests

All contests transmitted by 96.5 Inner FM **must**;

- (a) be conducted fairly
- (b) Announce winners on air immediately
- (c) Be restricted to members of the public and exclude;
 - (i) Family members of presenters on 96.5 Inner FM
 - (ii) Contest winners within the previous calendar month

Talkback And Interviews

96.5 Inner FM will not transmit the words of an identifiable person unless;

- (a) that person has been informed in advance that the words may be transmitted; or
- (b) In the case of words, which have been recorded without the knowledge of the person, that person has subsequently, but prior to the transmission, indicated consent to the transmission of the words.

Current Affairs Programs

Objectives: The objective of this program standard is to ensure that current affairs programs are presented;

- (a) With accuracy and fairness; and
- (b) In a way which allows informed public debate on issues which affect the community

96.5 Inner FM's OBLIGATIONS;

- (a) Factual material is presented accurately and that reasonable efforts are made to correct substantial errors of fact at the earliest possible opportunity;
- (b) Factual material is distinguished from commentary and analysis;



Commentary/analysis may include opinion or elaboration.

- (c) Reasonable efforts are made or reasonable opportunity given to present significant points of view when dealing with controversial issues of public importance, either within the same program or in similar programs, while that issue has relevance to the community;
- (d) Appropriate research, time and opportunity must be given for interested or relevant parties within a reasonable time to provide fairness and enhance newsworthy reporting to the public.
- (e) Viewpoints are not misrepresented, and material is not presented in a misleading manner by giving wrong or improper emphasis, by editing out of context, or by withholding relevant available facts;
- (f) Respect is given to each person's legitimate right to protection from unjustifiable use of material which is obtained without an individual's consent or other unwarranted and intrusive invasions of privacy;
- (g) Issues involving children and/or others unable to understand the implications of their comments or actions will be assessed on an individual basis by the Committee of Management of 96.5 Inner FM in conjunction with relevant government authorities prior to any transmissions.

Political Programming / Commentary

96.5 Inner FM is an apolitical radio broadcaster. Program content of a political nature **MUST** always be clearly identified as such. Presenters must ensure that content presented has been researched and that due consideration has been given to all points of view. Fair and reasonable opportunity must be given to all parties involved in the respective issue or discussion.

All Presenters must adhere to 96.5 Inner FM Station Policy and the (CBA) Community Radio Broadcasting Codes Of Practice. .