



Wales Community Radio Network

Dear Assembly Member,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Welsh Community Radio Network, a newly formed organisation which will represent Community Radio stations in Wales, both publicly and to Government.

We write to you for the first time, in what are unprecedented times. Many of the stations across Wales have had to reduce services, with volunteers and staff self or social isolating, putting a major drain on stations.

Despite this, the majority are able to continue a regular service, with local, friendly voices providing entertainment and delivering huge community benefit, through the sharing of information and news. We have already heard of stations losing advertising during this crisis and we are concerned about the long term impact it could have on the sector within their communities.

These services provide volunteering opportunities to hundreds across Wales and with many stations now worrying about balancing the books, whilst keeping their services on air, it's vital that support is provided now before it's too late.

Speaking to stations, there is a worry about wages, rent and outgoings, including their OFCOM annual fees which are due this month will not be paid, as advertisers cut their advertising campaigns daily.

As a sector, we are calling on the Welsh and UK Government to offer a helping hand to these Stations, which are a vital source of news and information, not just during these difficult times, but every day of the year.

Yours sincerely,

Nathan Spackman

Bro Radio

Steve Johnson

University of South Wales

On behalf of and representing:

BGFM, Bro Radio, Calon FM, GTFM, Mon FM, Radio Cardiff, Radio Tircoed, Radio Glan Clwyd, Rhondda Radio, Tudno FM