

**RTÉ Audience Council Meeting on 19 May 2025
at 3pm via Teams**

**Council Attendance
(In Person)**

Susan Ahern (Chair)
Diarmaid Breathnach
Claire Mullane
Amy Whelan
Mehrddad Lashgari
Niamh Madden

(via TEAMS):

Ceithleann Ní Dhuibhir Ní Dhúlacháin
Aoife Thomas
Roisin Pryce
Mehandra Varma
Tony Bond
Mark Quinn

Apologies:

Richard Lynch
Amber Rose Penders
Dolapo Agunbiade

In Attendance:

Barbara Clarke, Secretary RTÉ Audience Council
Rachel Lysaght, Project Manager for the Audience Council

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the Audience Council to the meeting and thanked them for the work they had undertaken in their Groups since the April meeting.

2. Minutes of 14 April 2025 Meeting

Approved.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. Audience Council Presentation to Board (Trial)

Rachel Lysaght gave an update on the work done since the last meeting in the Group preparations for the presentation to the Board. There was a trial presentation.

5. Presentation Review

The trial presentation was reviewed and feedback given by Audience Council members.

8. Next Steps

Research

The Audience Council discussed the need for some further research into the programmes selected. It was agreed to engage the Geena Davis Institute (GDI) to conduct an identity-based representation analysis of three RTÉ television programmes. The review will focus on the on-screen portrayal of characters across four identity categories: gender, race/ethnicity, age (50+), and disability. Socio-economic status will be assessed, if visibly or verbally communicated in the content. This research piece is deliverable on 6 June.

Presentation

Presentation to be finalised by 6 June. Presentation to the Board on 9 June 2025.

9. Audience Council Feedback Section

Any feedback provided by the Council was notified to RTÉ.

10. AOB

There was a discussion with regard to the response received from Steve Carson, Director of Video following his presentation to the Council on 14 April 2025.

The Council also discussed response received from Niamh Ní Churnáin, Grúpcheannasaí Gaeilge / Irish Language Group Leader, in relation to Irish language content.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.



Signed:

Chair