

Joint Meeting: RTÉ Audience Council & RTÉ Board on 9 June 2025 at 12pm in Person in RTÉ & via Teams

Audience Council: Susan Ahern (Chair)
Diarmaid Breathnach
Claire Millane
Ceithleann Ní Dhuibhir Ní Dhúlacháin
Roisin Pryce
Amy Whelan (Teams)
Mehrddad Lashgari (Teams)
Richard Lynch (Teams)
Mark Quinn (Teams)

RTÉ Board: Terence O'Rourke (Chair)
Kevin Bakhurst (DG)
Shirley Bradshaw
Aideen Howard
Noreen O'Kelly
Neasa Hardiman (via Teams)
Terri Moloney (via Teams)

Apologies (AC): Mehandra Varma
Tony Bond
Aoife Thomas
Niamh Madden
Amber Rose Penders
Dolapo Agunbiade

Apologies (Board) David Harvey
Jonathan Ruane

In Attendance: Barbara Clarke, Secretary RTÉ Audience Council
Rachel Lysaght, Project Manager for the Audience Council
Robert Shortt, Company Secretary

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed the Audience Council and the RTÉ Board, followed by brief individual introductions.

2. Audience Council Presentation

The Audience Council presented to the RTÉ Board on the representation and diversity in RTÉ programming providing a cross-genre review with 5 groups focussing on selected programmes in the following areas:

- Radio & Podcasts (Morning Ireland & 2fm Breakfast)
- Cultural / Public Service Broadcasting (Saol na Feirme, Nationwide & Ear to the Ground)
- Current Affairs / News (Prime Time)
- Documentaries (The Skinny Jab Revolution & Bishop Casey's Buried Secrets)
- Drama (Fair City)

The Audience Council delivered key insights and recommendations.

In relation to Drama, the Council provided a Report from the Geena Davis Institute, a third-party company which the Council engaged to research into the representation of gender (women), race (characters of colour), age (50-plus), disability, and social class on screen, across four episodes of Fair City programmes.

3. Q&A

There followed a question and answer session in relation to the presentation. The Board thanked the Audience Council for a fascinating, revealing and valuable presentation.

4. AOB

There being no further business the meeting concluded.

Signed:



Chair