Audience Council

Meeting held on Tuesday 6th of September 2016

Attendance: Margaret E Ward (Chair), Aidan McDonagh, Jenny Hassett, Seán Corcoran, Julie Farrell, Sharon Hutchinson, Myles McHugh, David Gunning,

Apologies: Fran Nolan, Caítriona O’Farrell, Siobhán Bradley, David McKinney, Fiona Nolan, Carol Moran

In Attendance: Paula Lynch Marlowe, Secretary RTÉ Audience Council

Communiqué
The Communiqué from the last meeting was approved.

Group Projects
Each project area; “Arts & Culture”, “Public Perception of RTÉ” and “Young People’s Programming” updated the group on where they were with their respective projects. Some are in the process of organising Focus Groups in their Community, some are using the method of online questionnaires but all are progressing with their research with a view to having this completed and collated by the next meeting on Wednesday the 19th of October.

Any other business
The Council requested that feedback be given to the RTÉ Sports team on their “spectacular” coverage of the 2016 Olympics Games from Rio this summer, from the front of house to the back office staff and also particular mention of NewsNow being an additional channel to view the games from which was really welcome. Also mentioned was the Electric Picnic coverage, which was also to be congratulated across RTÉ TV and Radio.

It was noted that the presentation was perhaps, more formal than that of the BBC but all in all it was very good, with Joanne Cantwell mentioned as doing a great job.

Concerns were raised by loss of transmission on RTÉ Radio stations from the Maghera Transmitter site, this was experienced for several hours at a time. There had been some
planned maintenance during September 2016 which was warned would affect all broadcast services from Maghera both FM Radio and Saorview.

Next Meeting Wednesday the 19th of October 2016