

BBC implementation plan: Review of the efficiency of radio production at the BBC

The BBC Trust commissioned the National Audit Office (NAO) to undertake a review of radio production efficiency in 2008. Following the publication of the NAO report in February 2009, the BBC Executive has now agreed an action plan to implement the NAO recommendations.

NAO Recommendation	Action planned	Owner	Proposed Completion Date
<p>The BBC should, in a rolling programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the costs of comparable programmes to highlight areas where there may be scope for further efficiency Identify the reasons for cost variations between programmes, establish whether the variations are due to differences in editorial ambition or efficiency and assess the scope for further efficiencies Inform guide price ranges for programme genres by analysis of actual cost data 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Update programme price benchmarking study for 2007-08 data Undertake key radio talent survey and review talent strategy Develop genre groups for cross-production team evaluation programme and commence genre-based reviews Develop approach for cost comparison between areas Report progress to BBC Trust 	Audio & Music Management	February 2010
<p>The BBC should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and document the likely and actual overall impact of efficiency savings initiatives on each of its public value criteria Complete the work that is already underway to confirm indicators and baselines for measuring performance against each of the public value criteria 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All areas to review and update current efficiency plans against relevant RQIV (reach, quality, impact, value) metrics Baselines used to measure efficiency to be reviewed and amended as required 	Audio & Music and Journalism Directors; progress to be reviewed by BBC Finance Committee	July 2009
The BBC should use the existing Radio Network to identify and spread good practice in radio production efficiency	Establish production efficiency and modernisation as standing item on Radio Network agenda	Audio & Music Management	April 2009
The BBC should explore with commercial radio stations how they might establish benchmarking arrangements to identify where and how savings can be made	Agree benchmarking approach with RadioCentre	Director Audio & Music together with BBC Trust	May 2009