



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS

2009-2012

RTE



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENTS 2009

RTÉ believes it is important to set and meet standards to the highest levels of accountability – for its audience.

These commitments, which can be independently assessed, reflect RTÉ's responsibilities as a Public Service Broadcaster and are in return for the significant public funds provided to it from the proceeds of the Licence Fee. RTÉ details, in its Annual Report, how each commitment has been met to its audience; this document is available on the organisation's website.

RTÉ makes specific Performance Commitments to the Minister and Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR) and some of these commitments to the audience are included in that document. At the end of the year RTÉ's performance in meeting these commitments will inform the Minister in making his decision about any proposed adjustment of the Licence Fee.

RTÉ's three core values, which are reflected in the commitments, are:

- ☆ connecting with all our audiences
- ☆ providing a value-for-money service
- ☆ being Ireland's premier, independent provider of definitive News and Current Affairs material, both national and international.

RTÉ Performing Groups

During 2009 the RTÉ Performing Groups will give a total of 190 public performances.

These Performances will include:

- ☆ 63 – RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra (RTÉ NSO)
- ☆ 5 – RTÉ NSO with the RTÉ Philharmonic Choir
- ☆ 80 – RTÉ Concert Orchestra (RTÉ CO)
- ☆ 30 – RTÉ Vanbrugh Quartet
- ☆ 9 – RTÉ Cor na nÓg
- ☆ 3 – Guest ensembles

The RTÉ Performing Groups will also engage in a total of 84 education related performances, workshops and talks and be involved in Television, Radio and Recordings.

RTÉ Radio

RTÉ Radio's core purpose is to tell the stories of the people of Ireland – and that includes all the communities and cultures that make up Irish society today. In 2009 RTÉ Radio will maintain the quality and variety of its output on four national services in both the Irish and English languages. Two of the services, RTÉ lyric fm and RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta, are based outside of Dublin as a significant commitment to the regions and this will continue. RTÉ Radio 1 and RTÉ 2fm are both committed to a combination of regionally focussed programmes and outside broadcasts from regional locations.

RTÉ will support and extend the programmes online, with developments to the websites and more podcasts. Listeners to new digital (DAB) radio channels will enjoy wider choice. A formal scheme for commissioning independent radio productions begins in 2009, with policy, practice and terms of trade to meet the requirements of new Broadcasting legislation.

RTÉ RADIO 1

RTÉ Radio 1 will do more to reflect life outside the greater Dublin area. The results will be heard in daily programmes as well as in coverage from festivals and special events held around the country. The station will report on the main political events of the year, from the U.S. Presidential Inauguration to the local government and European elections at home. Daily arts programming will celebrate Irish cultural life, with special celebrations in 2009 of the birthdays of some of our leading writers. The GAA Championship, international rugby and soccer will be at the centre of RTÉ Radio 1's sports calendar.

RTÉ 2fm

Live music in performance, support for students, and the search for new musical talent are the three main themes in RTÉ 2FM's commitments for 2009. The station will transmit 1,000 hours of new Irish music, to back Irish composers, singers and musicians, and will send two Irish bands to the annual *Eurosonic Festival*, one of Europe's leading rock showcases.

RTÉ RAIDÍO NA GAELTACHTA

RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta is committed to produce new drama, documentary, and history series in 2009, so maintaining the diversity of its factual output and young people will be offered entertainment and education programmes to cater for their interests and needs.

RTÉ lyric fm

RTÉ lyric fm will strengthen its education and outreach commitments by involving its newly appointed Composer-in-Residence. Three CDs of Irish composition or performance will be published in 2009, and live performance will be supported by studio sessions and outside broadcasts. RTÉ lyric fm will have an expanded news service while also being the main channel for RTÉ Radio's participation in the concert exchanges of the European Broadcasting Union.

Radio Programmes - 2009 Specific Targets Summary

GENRES	RADIO 1 Hours	2fm Hours	Lyric fm Hours	RnaG Hours
Arts	8		25	
Education		9		30
Factual	34			120
Drama				3
Music	30	1588	392	40
News & Current Affairs	1256	365	180	1020
Sport	57	50		
Young Peoples		12		30

The above table summarises the new and continuing specific commitments which concentrate on improving and enhancing the range, diversity and quality standards of the radio services rather than adding new hours of broadcast.

ON AIR

RTÉ One - Peak Time

GENRE	2009 Minimum Target
Arts	31
Education	14
Religion	18
Other Factual	241
Factual	304
Drama	108
News & Current Affairs	595
Entertainment	253
Music	20
YEAR TOTAL	1280

RTÉ Two - Peak Time

GENRE	2009 Minimum Target
Arts	0
Education	0
Religion	1
Other Factual	10
Factual	11
Drama	8
News & Current Affairs	80
Entertainment	68
Music	33
YEAR TOTAL	200

All RTÉ - All Time

GENRE	2009 Minimum Target
Young Peoples	780+
Sport	527
News & Current Affairs	1151
Subtitling	7300
YEAR TOTAL	9766

RTÉ Television

RTÉ Television will continue to set the Irish standard by which all others are measured – being innovative yet reliable, informative yet challenging, enriching and entertaining.

RTÉ Factual will again distil the spirit of the nation with over 300 hours of brand-new one-off commissions and series – including a landmark documentary series looking at the legacy of Sean Lemass. RTÉ Arts will mark the 70th birthday of Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney while RTÉ Education will send six troubled teens to the wilds of Connemara for a boot camp with a difference. Irish-language programming will return with several new series while six more well-known faces will be asked *Who Do You Think You Are?* International format *Dragons' Den* comes to Ireland and RTÉ broadcaster Gay Byrne will return to television screens for the first time in seven years with a new series for RTÉ Religious, part of a range of new output from the division.

Six of RTÉ's best-loved series will return as part of our daytime and lifestyle schedule, as well as a range of new series for anyone with ambitious designs for their lifestyle, their dinner plate or their home.

RTÉ Drama will have the return of *Fair City*, now in its 21st year, and *The Clinic*, as well as a major new drama series from acclaimed writer Frank Deasy.

RTÉ Entertainment will ensure *The Late Late Show*, *Tubridy Tonight* and *Celebrity Bainisteoir* all return alongside *The Rose of Tralee*, *Up for the Match* and the *IFTAs*. There will also be brand-new comedy from one half of the duo behind *Father Ted*, while the *All-Ireland Talent Show* will pitch county against county, province against province, in what may be the most hotly contested battle since last year's GAA finals. Irish culture is again at the core of RTÉ Music's output next year with the return of *Come West along the Road*, *Fleadh Ceoil* and *The Full Set*.

RTÉ News & Current Affairs will deliver over 1,150 hours of bulletins and in-depth news analysis, special documentary features and live coverage of key events in 2009 on RTÉ Television – where RTÉ Sport will again deliver 40 live games from the 2009 GAA Championships as well as highlights coverage of the All-Ireland Club Finals. RTÉ will have all of Ireland's home matches in the World Cup while Champions League, Premier Soccer Saturday and Monday Night Soccer all return alongside the RBS 6 Nations and Heineken Cup highlights. With a comprehensive line-up of horse racing, boxing, athletics, basketball and golf, RTÉ Sport is where the games begin.

RTÉ Young People's Programming (YPP) includes *The Den*, *Den Tots* and *TTV*, and YPP will bring younger viewers over 780 hours of home-produced programming in 2009. This programming is at the heart of RTÉ's Public Service commitment – as is the commitment that will see RTÉ increase its subtitling hours from 6,700 in 2008 to 7,300; a commitment that in 2009 will see us unite more viewers and listeners than ever before across RTÉ Television, Radio and On-line; that in 2009 will see us continue to care for and restore the audio-visual treasures of our nation. RTÉ Television continues at the very centre of Irish life, for all our lives.



RTÉ Publishing

- ☆ Launch RTÉ Player
- ☆ Grow the current online audience by increasing monthly usage by at least 15%
- ☆ Launch Aertel Digital text on TV Platforms
- ☆ Launch enhanced weather service across web, teletext and mobile
- ☆ Extend RTÉ's reach to Irish communities overseas

