

Investigation Report no. BI-714

Summary	
Licensee	Radio Skid Row Ltd
Station	2RSR
Type of service	Community Broadcasting
Relevant legislation	<i>Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Code 3.1(a) of the Codes [Our station will not broadcast material that may incite, encourage, or present for its own sake violence or brutality]> Code 3.3 of the Codes [We will not broadcast material that is likely to stereotype, incite, vilify or perpetuate hatred or attempt to demean any person or group on the basis of nationality, race or religion].
Finding	The Licensee: <ul style="list-style-type: none">> Did not breach Code 3.1(a) of the Codes> Did not breach Code 3.3 of the Codes

Background

On 28 December 2024, 1 January 2025 and 2 January 2025, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (**ACMA**) received complaints (**Complaints**) about Radio Skid Row Ltd (**Licensee**).

The Complaints alleged the Licensee may be failing to comply with provisions of the Community Radio Broadcasting Codes of Practice 2008 (**Codes**).

On 6 February 2025, the ACMA commenced an investigation under the BSA into the Licensee's compliance with:

- > Code 3.1(a) of the Codes [Our community radio station will not broadcast material that may incite, encourage, or present for its own sake violence or brutality].
- > Code 3.3 of the Codes [We will not broadcast material that is likely to stereotype, incite, vilify or perpetuate hatred or attempt to demean any person or group on the basis of nationality, race or religion].

The Complaints

The Complaints alleged that the Licensee broadcast:

- > a program with a name that appears to reference symbols used by terrorist organisations
- > content that glorifies known terrorists, such as a specific individual identified by the Complainants (**Individual A**).

The Licensee

The Licensee has held a long-term community radio broadcasting licence to represent the general geographic area community interest in the Sydney RA2 licence area since 1983.

The service operated by the Licensee is 2RSR.

Assessment and submissions

This investigation has considered:

- > complaints received by the ACMA on 28 December 2024, 1 January 2025 and 2 January 2025.
- > copies of the 27 December 2024, 3 January 2025, 10 January 2025, and 17 January 2025 broadcasts of *Pulse of Palestine*, submitted to the ACMA by the Licensee on 24 January 2025.
- > written submissions submitted to the ACMA by the Licensee on 28 January and 5 March 2025.

Other sources are identified in this report where relevant.

Issue 1: Has the Licensee breached Code 3.1(a) of the Codes?

Relevant code provision

3.1(a)

Our community radio station will not broadcast material that may incite, encourage, or present for its own sake violence or brutality.

Finding

The ACMA is of the view that the Licensee did not breach Code 3.1(a) of the Codes.

Reasons

The Complaints

The allegations in the Complaints potentially related to the licensee's compliance with the requirement not to broadcast material that may incite or encourage violence.

The Complaints specified that:

- > the program name that appears to reference symbols used by terrorist organisations is *Red Inverted Triangle, Resistance Intifada Tahrir*
- > the content glorifying known terrorists featured Individual A.

Licensee submissions

On 5 March 2025, the Licensee submitted that the program that is the subject of the Complaints is called *Pulse of Palestine*, not *Red Inverted Triangle*.

In its submissions, the Licensee explained that:

- > the presenter of *Pulse of Palestine* has a podcast and website called *Red Inverted Triangle*, separate from the Licensee's community broadcasting service
- > 'in its planning stages', *Pulse of Palestine* had the working title of *Red Inverted Triangle*, so the Licensee published some promotional posts using the name *Red Inverted Triangle* on its social media
- > following further consideration, the Licensee decided to change the name of the program to *Pulse of Palestine*.

The Licensee described *Pulse of Palestine* as follows:

'Pulse of Palestine' is a Palestinian radio show that features conversations with international academics, intellectuals and public figures discussing the Palestinian cause given the current dire situation in the Middle East. The program is educational in nature, aiming to discuss Palestinian issues and provide the Palestinian narrative that is rarely covered in the mainstream media.

This Program is crucial as it helps in supporting the Palestinian community in Sydney and promoting understanding and social cohesion within the diverse communities in Australia.

[...]

The Program is uniquely placed to provide balanced analyses since it includes diverse opinions and views from different ethnicities and religious backgrounds and hosts many Arab and Jewish personalities.

[...]

The Program has hosted conversations with 7 Palestinian and 4 Jewish interviewees.

On 24 January 2025, the Licensee submitted copies of the four most recent broadcasts of *Pulse of Palestine* (27 December 2024, 3 January 2025, 10 January 2025, 17 January 2025).

On 28 January 2025, the Licensee identified one instance of Individual A's image being included in a social media post about Palestinian women. However, it did not identify any instances of content about Individual A being broadcast on its community broadcasting service. On 5 March 2025, the Licensee further submitted that there have been no references to Individual A broadcast on *Pulse of Palestine*.

Analysis

The ACMA has reviewed the written submissions from the Licensee. These submissions do not show that the Licensee has a program named *Red Inverted Triangle, Resistance Intifada Tahrir*, nor do they indicate that the Licensee broadcast content glorifying known terrorists or referring to Individual A on its community broadcasting service.

The ACMA also reviewed a sample of four broadcasts of *Pulse of Palestine* from immediately before and after the Complaints to the ACMA (27 December 2024, 3 January 2025, 10 January 2025, and 17 January 2025). The ACMA did not find any material that may incite or encourage violence.

Relevant to the specific allegations in the Complaints, the ACMA notes that, at the end of the 10 January 2025 broadcast of *Pulse of Palestine*, the presenter referred to 'red inverted triangle' as follows: 'Thanks for listening to my conversation with [interviewee]. If you'd like to listen to the remaining parts of the conversation, you can access the full interview on Red Inverted Triangle podcast...'. The ACMA acknowledges that reference to the symbol may be distressing for some listeners. However, in this context, the ACMA considers that the reference in the broadcast does not appear to incite or encourage violence as contemplated by the Codes.

Conclusion

The information provided to the ACMA does not show that the Licensee has a program with a name that references symbols used by terrorist organisations, or that it broadcast content glorifying known terrorists.

The ACMA is of the view that the Licensee did not breach the requirement under Code 3.1(a) of the Codes.

Issue 2: Has the Licensee breached Code 3.3 of the Codes?

Relevant code provision

3.3

We will not broadcast material that is likely to stereotype, incite, vilify, or perpetuate hatred against, or attempt to demean any person or group, on the basis of ethnicity, nationality, race, language, gender, sexuality, religion, age, physical or mental ability, occupation, cultural belief or political affiliation. The requirement is not intended to prevent the broadcast of material which is factual, or the expression of genuinely held opinion in a news or current affairs program or in the legitimate context of a humorous, satirical or dramatic work.

Finding

The ACMA is of the view that the Licensee did not breach Code 3.3 of the Codes.

Reasons

The Complaints

The allegations in the Complaints potentially related to the licensee's compliance with the requirement not to broadcast material that is likely to incite, vilify or perpetuate hatred on the basis of nationality, race or religion.

The Complaints specified that:

- > the program name that appears to reference symbols used by terrorist organisations is *Red Inverted Triangle, Resistance Intifada Tahrir*
- > the content glorifying known terrorists featured Individual A.

Licensee submissions

The submissions set out under **Issue 1** are also relevant to **Issue 2**.

Analysis

As noted under **Issue 1**, the ACMA has reviewed the written submissions from the Licensee. These submissions do not show that the Licensee has a program named *Red Inverted Triangle, Resistance Intifada Tahrir*, nor do they indicate that the Licensee broadcast content glorifying known terrorists or referring to Individual A on its community broadcasting service.

The ACMA also reviewed a sample of four broadcasts of *Pulse of Palestine* from immediately before and after the time of the Complaints to the ACMA (27 December 2024, 3 January 2025, 10 January 2025, and 17 January 2025) and did not find any material that is likely to incite, vilify or perpetuate hatred on the basis of nationality, race or religion.

Conclusion

The information provided to the ACMA does not show that the Licensee has a program with a name that references symbols used by terrorist organisations, or that it broadcast content glorifying known terrorists.

The ACMA is of the view that the Licensee did not breach the requirement under Code 3.3 of the Codes, to not broadcast material that is likely to incite, vilify or perpetuate hatred on the basis of nationality, race or religion.