

37th EPRA Meeting, Kraków, 2013

Public Service Media in a Connected Environment Celene Craig, BAI



BAI and Public Service Media

BAI has general and specific functions re PSM:

- Openness and plurality in broadcasting services
- High quality, diverse and culturally relevant content for Irish audiences
- Public funding of PSM and SIAs



Public Service Broadcasting in Ireland

Two public service broadcasters:

- RTÉ: radio, television and online
 45%-55% of Funding from Commercial
 Sources + Public Funding
- TG4: Irish language television primarily Public Funding



BAI Regulatory Activity re PSM

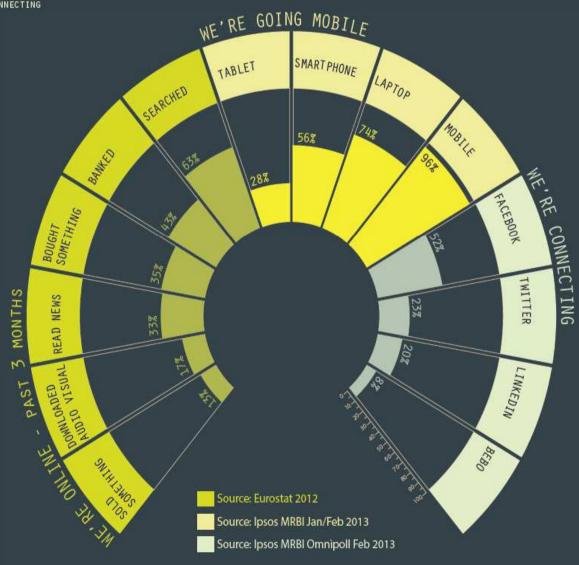
- Reviews performance against commitments annually
- Annual Reviews of public funding
- Conducts multi-annual, strategic reviews of public funding
- Undertakes Sectoral Impact Assessments of new linear and non-linear services
- Advises Minister re Public Value Tests



Media Landscape in Ireland

- Complex and Challenging
- Strong participation by non-Irish, English language broadcasters, largely UK
- UK broadcasters compete commercially but have no content obligations to Irish audiences
- Only one significant commercial Irish broadcaster







PSM in the Connected Environment

- Legislative framework facilitates PSM in extending range of new media activities
- Practical challenges, principally funding
- Presence in new media essential to ensuring continued prominence



Prominence Challenge

- In Ireland, Prominence is centrally concerned with continuing to facilitate a high profile for, and consumption of, Irish public service content and
- Supporting the production of public service content and means by which it can be made universally accessible and viewed by Irish audiences



General Challenges

- PSM remain focussed in providing distinctive, quality and relevant content for Irish audiences
- Need to harness adequate resources to facilitate development
- Balance independence and accountability of PSM
- PSM to remain accountable and transparent in the use of public funds



Challenges for dual-funded PSM

- Audience fragmentation and intensive competition from new media
- Fragmentation in traditional forms of revenue
- Requirement for greater public accountability in respect of funding, value for money and maximisation of commercial revenue
- Achieving balance in mix of traditional and new media services



HOME

AT

· 0.1% MOBILE IN PUBLIC PLACE

0.2% OUT OF HOME SCREEN IN PUBLIC PLACE

• 0.3% MOBILE AT WORK

0.3% MOBILE IN SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME

0.4% DESKTOP AT WORK

• 0.4% OTHER TV

0.5% TABLET AT HOME

0.6% MOBILE AT HOME 0.7% TV SOCIALLY

0.8% LAPTOP AT WORK

0.9% GAMES CONSOLE AT HOME

0.9% TV AT WORK

1.5% TV IN SOMEONE ELSE'S HOME

1.1% HOME DESKTOP

LAPTOP AT HOME

85.4%

Source: TAM (Ipsos MRBI survey Nov/Dec 2012)



BAI Multi-Annual Review of Public Funding

Key questions included:

- What is the role and purpose of public service broadcasting in the current and emerging environment?
- What patterns of content should characterise the schedules of PSM?
- What purposes are identified for the proper expenditure of public funding?



Expectations of Public Service Media

- Strong vision for digital content
- Active participation in regulatory agenda
- Continued accountability and transparency in use of public funds
- A degree of specificity in the benefits expected for audiences arising from increases in public funding
- A degree of realism
- Level of ambition in better delivering its public purpose



Thank you!