

Job description

Job Title: Editor Radio News and Current Affairs

Department: BBC NI NEWS

Reports to: Head of News BBCNI

Contract Type: Continuing

Base: Belfast

Grade: 11

JOB PURPOSE

To lead the Radio News and Current Affairs teams which are responsible for Radio Ulster's flagship daily programmes, Good Morning Ulster, Talkback and Evening Extra, the Sunday News, radio documentaries, radio news specials and the daily news bulletins. He/she will be editorially in charge of all output and will ensure that high editorial standards are maintained and the programmes and bulletins meet the changing needs of the audience. He/she will line manage a team of around 35 -40 staff, including presenters, assistant editors, senior producers, broadcast journalists and content assistants. He/she will work closely with the other Newsroom Editors and will be part of the Newsroom's Management Team.

Accountabilities

- Accountable to the Head of News BBC NI for the management and effectiveness of the radio news and current affairs teams.
- To provide editorial and creative leadership for staff working in Radio News and Current Affairs.
- To understand how interaction with digital and social media may enhance radio output.
- To provide authoritative editorial advice for journalists on news stories as required.
- To help build an open, collaborative and creative culture within BBC News NI and other departments in BBC NI.
- To help train, develop and motivate staff.
- To ensure any new technology is introduced and implemented effectively.
- To help direct, plan and shape radio coverage on major news events such as elections.
- To develop and oversee documentary series as required.
- To ensure output is delivered within budget and in the most cost effective manner possible.

SKILLS, Knowledge and EXPERIENCE

- Strong editorial judgement and knowledge of NI affairs, based on extensive journalistic experience and a thorough understanding of the principles of BBC journalism
- Strong leadership, negotiating, communication and inter-personal skills
- Ability to make sound editorial decisions under pressure and to identify, prioritise and interpret the key stories of the day.
- A clear understanding of the needs of BBC Northern Ireland's radio news and current affairs audiences.
- Demonstrate a high level of creative ability in shaping and developing radio programmes and individual programme items.
- Good knowledge of the strategy, structures, policies and procedures of BBC NI News, including those relating to editorial policy, diversity and health and safety.
- A thorough knowledge of the law as it relates to journalism
- Experience of successfully managing staff recruitment, development and performance.
- Ability to motivate and develop editorial staff to produce innovative and creative output.
- Personal resilience and the ability to work on own initiative at a high level.

Competencies.

- **Editorial Judgement;** Makes correct editorial decisions based on a clear understanding of the BBC's editorially distinctive news agenda
- **Creative thinking:** Translates news and current affairs into high quality output through an understanding of the requirements of the different delivery platforms.
- **Managing relationships and team working:** Able to build and maintain effective working relationships with a range of people across News. Works co-operatively with others to be part of a team.
- **Subject knowledge:** Demonstrate deep knowledge of a range of current news stories.
- **Analytical skills:** Simplifies complex problems, processes or projects. Able to problem solve and suggest solutions to difficult issues.
- **Decision Making:** Is ready and able to take the initiative, originate actions and take responsibility for the consequences of decisions.
- **Communication:** Has the ability to communicate clearly with staff by adopting a range of styles, tools and techniques appropriate to the audience and the nature of the information.
- **Influencing others:** Presents strong and well-reasoned arguments to convince others. Draws from a range of strategies to persuade people in a way that results in agreement or behaviour change.